

LYNNE TRUSS Kevin Keegan ust wanted to come in from the cold PAGE 46



THE DISCOVERY DIET GUIDE DAY 5

The homoeopathic way to a balanced lifestyle PAGE 17



CAITLIN MORAN How rock has invaded the language

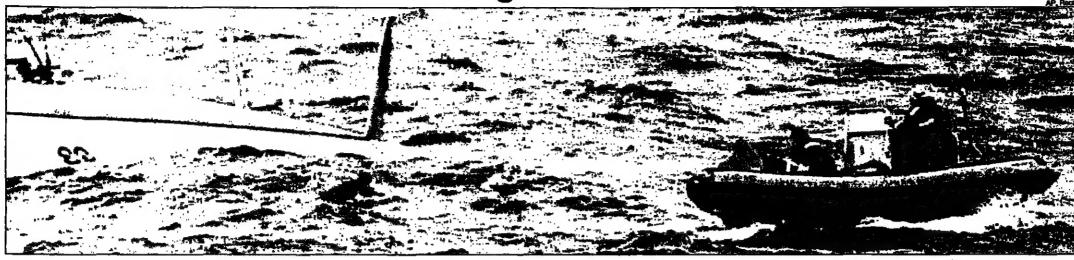
PAGE 34



TOMORROW ANNE FRANK Julia Neuberger on

a very modern heroine WEEKEND

## It's heaven, says rescued sailor



## **Briton shouted** 'I'm coming' as divers knocked

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

TONY BULLIMORE was in tralian frigate last night after one of the greatest survival feats in maritime history.

The British lone sailor had spent nearly five days sheltering in an air pocket in the upturned hull of his yacht fore being pulled from the Southern Ocean early yesterday. He had lost the tip of his left little finger and was suffer-ing from minor hypothermia, dehydration and frostbite but medical staff aboard HMAS Adelaide said that he

was relatively unscathed. As he recovered, the Queen sent him a message praising him for his "extraordinary feat of survival". She also congratfor their "dramatic rescue".

The climax to the operation came just as naval divers were preparing to cut a hole in the hull of Mr Bullimore's Global Exide Challenger. As the Adelaide reached the yacht and



market research did you do?"

sounded its horn, the six-man crew on an inflatable dinghy jumped on to the hull and started knocking on the surface. Seconds later the noises were returned.

"Hello, is there anyone there?" a diver asked. "Hello," came back the lone

The divers asked if he could get out and thought he replied "No, I can't." But he then opened the door of the sealed compartment where he had been sleeping and simply swam to the surface.

Mr Bullimore, 56, said later that when the diver banged on the hull "I started shouting 'I'm coming, I'm coming. It took a few seconds to get from other. Then I took a few deep breaths and I dived out of the boat. When I saw the ship standing there and the plane going overhead and a couple of guys peering over the top of the upturned hull, it was

heaven, absolute heaven." Mr Bullimore's ordeal had begun at 6 pm on Sunday when he and fellow yachts-man Thierry Dubois — both taking part in the Vendée Globe round-the-world race sent out four distress signals. Their boats had been over-turned by a fierce wind and mountainous seas 1,500 miles south west of Australia. M Dubois took to his liferaft and was eventually winched to safety by a helicopter from the

Mr Bullimore sought refuge in a tiny watertight compartment in his yacht's upturned hull. Outside there were 60 knot winds, 50 feet swells and a temperature hovering just

THE pound marched to its highest level for four years

yesterday as the French franc

The pound now stands at

Fr9 for the first time since it

left the European Exchange

two years ago it bought only

Fr7.60. The moves came as

investors responded to the

dramatic gap opening up be-

tween the healthy perfor-

mance of the British economy

and deepening economic

The mark slumped after

figures showing that German

unemployment has reached

4.16 million, its highest level

Sterling finished at 96.6 on

its index against a basket of

currencies, its best level for

four years. Speaking in Tokyo.

since the war.

problems on the continent.

Rate Mechanism in 1992 -

moved further down.



Tony Bullimore surfaces from his upturned yacht and is hauled on to a rubber dinghy and wrapped in foll (below) by rescuers from the Adelaide

above freezing. Inside, it was wet and pitch black. The 5ft 3in sailor activated his distress beacons and prenared himself for a long wait. He knew that he was at least three days' sailing from land and that there was no possibility of a helicopter rescue at that distance. Also, with his

which could only have been

done manually, and realised

that the skipper must be alive.

lor, said that the economy had

In comparison, continental

economies are facing worsen-

ing problems because of the

race to meet the Maastricht

treaty criteria for joining a

single currency. They are hav-

ing to squeeze their budget deficits and this, in turn, is

leading to weak growth and

rising unemployment.

sagging economies.

Profit warnings, page 25 Pennington, page 27

Anatole Kaletsky, page 29

never been better.

radio lost, it was impossible to contact the race organisers in Paris. But he still had a few tricks up his sleeve. Back at rescue headquarters in Canberra, the signal from the beacons was being monitored closely. Some 24 hours after the first signals were picked up, the team noticed a change in the beacon's mode,

Franc put in shade

by soaring pound

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

Come day two in the black air bubble, Mr Bullimore's spirits lifted when he heard the drone of an aircraft. An RAAF Orion came low over the cansized craft, but could see no sign of its skipper or its liferaft and flew on. Mr Bullimore had guessed

that the plane came from the Royal Australian Air Force and was confident that help was on its way. But by now he was hungry and thirsty. He had no water, he was developing frostbite and he had amputated part of his finger while shutting a hatch.

By day three, he knew help was getting closer when he heard the noise from a sonar beacon which had been dropped alongside. These devices have acutely sensitive

microphonesand Mr Bullimore knew that his rescuers hoped for a response, so he tapped on the wall of his hull. When an Air Force Orion tuned into the knocking, rescuers feared at first that it might be coming from debris

analysed the recording there was a definite sequence.

On day four, the severely dehydrated Mr Bullimore decided to encourage his rescuers by activating the last beacon he had kept tucked in his red immersion suit. The noise was picked up by a

in the hull, but when they

nearby Orion. Suddenly the Adelaide's horn blasted across the ocean. As Colonel Andrew Revnolds of the Australian Defence Force said afterwards: "Tony's

head just peopled up out of the water and we pulled him on to an inflatable. He obviously heard the horn and decided now's the time to leave." Mr Bullimore smiled as he

laide. "Thank you," he said. "Could I have a cup of tea?" The Adelaide is now expected to return to Fremantle, by

Monday, when Mr Bullimore and M Dubois will be reunited with their families. The rescue operation is believed to have cost the Australian Government about £3 million and while there was elation at the success of the venture, the sports minister. Warwick Smith, called for

Bullimore's story, pages 2, 3 Leading article, page 21 Design problem, page 45 was transferred to the Ade-

#### **Private** schools' A levels wrongly upgraded

By JOHN O'LEARY EDUCATION EDITOR

A TEAM of examiners aised the scores of some independent school candi-English A level by up to two grades without looking at the papers, an unprec dented public report by

scrutineers said yesterday. The Oxford-based group, which has conducted a war of words with the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority for almost two months, failed only five out of 5,341 candidates. Hundreds of teenagers are thought to have been regraded too

In some cases, the 11strong team responsible for ensuring the consisten-cy of grades was found to have accepted schools' predictions in preference to the original examiner's marks. One candidate had the marks for a section increased from 14 to 40 out of 60 "with no apparent justification".

The examiners, most of whom had been together for more than a decade, oversaw the marking of one in 12 students taking English A level last sum mer. Most candidates came from independent schools, producing a pass rate in the top two grades of twice the national aver-

age. Nick Tate, SCAA's chief executive, said the routine scrutiny of examining by and Cambridge board was the most damning he had ever read. The authority had decided to publish its Continued on p 5, col 1

> Oxford yields, page 5 Education, page 39

#### Sinatra suffers heart attack

Frank Sinatra, SI, was taken to hospital in Beverly Hills after suffering an "uncomplicated" heart attack. The entertainer's prognosis was said to be good and he was undergoing tests and treatment.

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



TV & RADIO ......46, 47 WEATHER ..... 24 CROSSWORDS......24. 48 LETTERS ..... 21, 29, 42 OBITUARIES ..... 23 BERNARD LEVIN ..... 20

#### Boy truant dies in frozen pond

A TRUANT schoolboy collecting golf balls from a frozen pond yesterday became the seventh person this winter to die after falling through ice (Gillian Bowditch and Michael Hornsby write).

Peter John Sinclair, 15, ignored warnings from pension ers at Auchenharvie golf course at Stevenston, near Ardrossan, Avrshire, After getting into trouble he

One of the major reasons tried to swim to an island but could not stay afloat. A firefighter waded into the why investors are such enthusiastic buyers of the pound is pond with a rope around his that British interest rates are chest but was brought out expected to rise this year to suffering from hypothermia. prevent a runaway consumer boom while European govern-The Meteorological Office ments may have to cut their said the cold will continue interest rates to bolster their

today with more snow possible, but forecast a thaw in northern and western Britain the high-risk strategy of hold-ing a by-election in Wirral South which could put the Tories into a minority administration weeks before a gener-Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, made the surprise announcement that the Government would move a parliamentary writ for the by-

JOHN MAJOR has opted for

election by February 3. A poll would be then held late next month or in early March. Tory strategists said the byelection would make it less likely that the Prime Minister would call a general election on March 20. They said May I

was still his favoured option. Tony Blair immediately urged the people of Wirral South to give a lead to the rest of the country: Labour would Forecast, page 24 | need a swing of 8.2 per cent

By Jill Sherman, chief political correspondent totake the seat. He said Labour had bounced the Government into holding the byelection.

Wirral by-election

The decision ends weeks of speculation that the Government would delay the poll so that it was superseded by the general election. The Tories are not tipped to hold the seat and such a move would have avoided the risk of a demoralising defeat in the run-up to a general election.

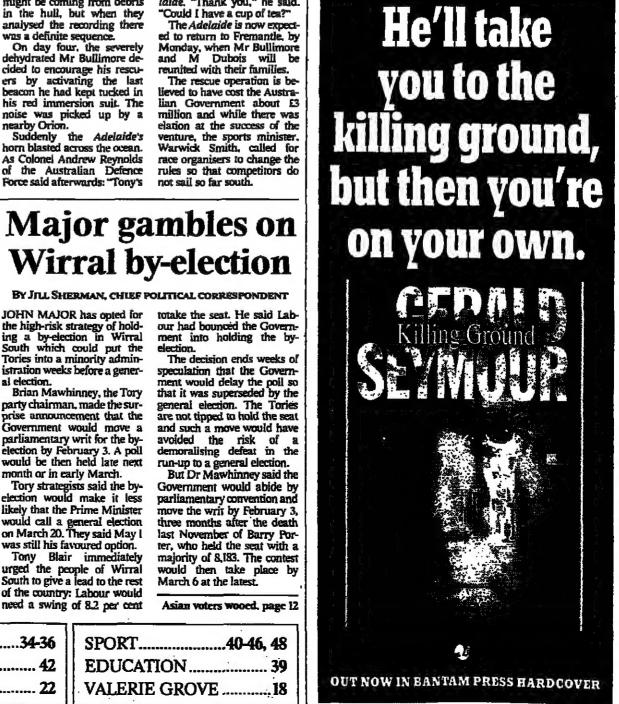
But Dr Mawhinney said the Government would abide by parliamentary convention and move the writ by February 3, three months after the death last November of Barry Porter, who held the seat with a majority of 8,183. The contest would then take place by

Asian voters wooed, page 12

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## Tony Bullimore's own account of his ordeal - and the moment he realised he was safe

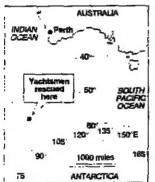
## 'I heard a diver banging, it was Heaven'.

Tony Bullimore told the story of his incredible five-day fight for survival, holed up in a tiny air pocket in his upturned yacht, to Jerry Pratley, a reporter for the West Australian newspaper in Perth, who is on board HMAS Adelaide

I WAS starting to doubt whether I would be saved when I heard a diver banging on the side of the hull. I had to think about it for a few seconds because there was continuous banging all the time from the rigging. The banging was a big. heavy bunging, and it was like Heaven, it was like Heaven.

Then I heard a voice outside and I started shouting. "I'm coming. I'm coming." It took me a few seconds to get from other. Then I took a few deep breaths and I dived out of the

When I saw the ship standing there and the plane going overhead, and a couple of guys peering over the top of the upturned hull, it was Heaven. absolute Heaven. I really, really never thought I would



reach that far. I was starting to look back over my life and was starting to think, "Well. I've had a good life. I've done most of the things I had wanted to

I think if I was picking words to describe it, it would be a miracle, an absolute miracle. You've got about two thirds of the hull filled with water. There was a hole in the bottom of the hull, in fact really at the top, where one of the windows had come out. and it caused a type of vacuum. The hole caused warer to be sucked in and out at a colossal rate that caused a kind of Niagara Falls, but

I had to find myself a spot as high up as possible and put nets around it, so that I could in to get out of the water and to get away from everything.

little hidy-hole.

I stayed curled up to keep myself warm and had to come down, get into the water. which was up to my neck, to get to the entranceway to see what was going on. I wanted to get to the liferaft because I was frightened that anybody who would come might just look and say. "Ah. it's all

I had to dive out of the entranceway and swim up through the cockpit, until I got to the liferaft and start lashing it. I couldn't get the rope off because I only had under a minute to dive up there. My breath was not too good because I smoke.

with the boat on the way. One of my fuel tanks broke down and I lost half my fuel. Then my Satcom C [communications link) went down and my heater went, then the bilge

would be here. I've been in some situations in my life est. It was pitch dark down there and I had no torches. and the vacuum from the hole where the window had broken was terrible. It sucked everything out of the boat, actually ripping the chart table out. All sorts of fittings-out like the radios, a chair and everything. went out — it was quite amazing. I had to spend a lot of time up in my little den, my

dozen times and each time I went up there I had to immediately go back to my little bolthole so that I could warm up. I would have to stay there for about two hours to warm up. then go back down to have unother go. When I started this race,

and I got myself together and got the boat together. I never dreamt of something like this. I've had a lot of experience, I've done over 200,000 miles of ocean racing. I'm a bit of a loner. I'm not a rich man, I come from a pretty ordinary family and the struggled all the way. I had different problems

pump was giving trouble and there were a lot of other minor problems. Then I started getting creaking noises from the But the funny thing was that I went up there about a

the first bad weather I got in the Southern Ocean wasn't too bad, 50-55 knots. I couldn't go downwind with it because the boat wanted to keep luffing up the bow kept turning into the direction from which the wind was blowing: the effect is to stop the boat. But I was doing a steady 10-15 knots and as soon as I put the automatic pilot on, the boat wanted to luff up. It was doing 25 knots and luffing up, luffing up.

I had to change course and run under bare poles | without any sails]. I thought it had it conquered, I thought I had down to Heard Island and was actually within five miles of Heard Island. It was absolutely labulous. I took some pictures and it was really

I felt really happy with all this. I made myself a nice cup

I got over that, then got into this high [pressure system]. I had four days of high, with blue skies, flat seas; doing about 8-10 knots, not very fast but it's the time to dry out the

I dried out the boat, I dried some clothes and cooked a nice curry, a nice stinking-hot curry. I had some cheese and biscuits and everything was

Then the wind started to come, and come, and come. I didn't have a weather fax. Satcom C or nothing like that. I had to smell the weather. smell it because I didn't have any other way of knowing what was happening.

knots, 35-40 knots, 45-50, 55-60 and then it was rolling around. I got the boat going beautifully, bare poles, lashed everything down, got every-thing tucked away down below and put everything in a

of tea, opened a pack of chucked from one side to the biscuits and thought, This is other with no damage.

I was sitting there with my old cup of tea and then bang. the keel popped off. The moment it banged off, the boat went over so quick. It rolled and rolled and rolled. Then I was standing on the bottom frooft of the boat and for most

of the night it was OK. Then the window went in and water started coming in like Niagara Falls.

Let's put it this way, with the experiences that I've experienced with this, there is no room to try to be too radical and have too much high rechnology. You have to have everything completely tested. tested again and triple-tested. if you want to go long

you do it in Sydney Harbour, or Plymouth Harbour in England, or Newport Rhode Island. You don't go down past Heard Island, then hope your keel will hang on with a new, radical system, or with new masts or something like that.

You have to be very careful to undertake such a long voyage. I was amazed. I was amazed.

Tony Bullimore moments after his rescue yesterday, comforted by Chief Petty Officer Bosun Peter Wicker and Leading Seaman Clearance Diver Alan Rub

with myself. I've been there before, I have to tell you, I've been in the middle of the Atlantic, in a liferaft, nearly 20 years ago. It was a different kind of calamity, but there you are.

I was in the Bay of Biscay in another situation in a very fast boat in 1986 that did a flip, so I'm a bit of a glutton for

But now that I'm getting a hit old, there is one thing and I don't mind telling the world - I've become more human in these last six days. I'm a different person. I wan't be so rude to people, not that I was, but I'll be much more of a gentleman and, equally, I'll

And as a dear old friend of mine, David Mathieson, said, when he had a heart attack and I've never had a heart attack. I've got a strong heart. I hope I still have - he said that when he got over it and opened his window in his

bedroom, and he peered out and smelt the fresh air and all the rest of it, he said, "God, it was like being born all over again, life was great."
Well, that's how I feel now,

like being born all over again. I wasn't sure if I heard planes flying overhead or whether I was imagining it. I was in my little bolt-hole and I heard this "vroom" poise two or three times, and I got up like lightning and went to the entranceway to make sure. I had been tricked by that before, with the noises of the

I thought that if I dived out, I might not get back in. I had lost my toolbag. I was going to make a hole in the hull so i could fire rockets through and put my emergency beacon out there. I thought that as soon as I had a spare beacon, that I could play with [the frequency]

that could be recognised. Like when the diver banged on the hull, in a funny old way I knew it was a bloody human being. Before that I would hear bangs and sit there for all right."

half an hour, but it would be the same rhythm bangs and I thought it was part of the boat. Then I thought I heard helicopters just after the

planes; but whether that was possible or not I just didn't know. When I heard that I nearly cried, because thought, "Christ, I've missed my opportunity," and the helicopters had gone off, thinking that was a waterlogged boat that was finished. I thought to myself, "I should have dived out, come out and swam around, rain, hall or shine,

and take the chance. When I heard the helicopter gain, it was like Heaven. When I heard the banging on the side. I picked up anything I could, used my fist, anything to bang the side.

to get to the other end, screaming: "I'm coming out, I'm coming out." I took a few deep breaths and came out, straight through the hole, and the ship was standing there and f thought, "I'm saved. I'm

## Proud Australia shrugs off the £3m cost of a job well done

THE price of one life in the waters of the Southern Ocean can be staggeringly expensive: insurance experts yesterday out the cost of saving Tony Bullimore and Thierry Dubois at more than £3 million.

Yet the bill to cover four airforce planes, which flew around the clock for nearly four days, plus a week-long voyage by a navy frigate and a support vessel, has not so far seemed to bother most Australians.

The cheers that greeted his rescue could be heard right across the nation and there was an immediate outpouring of relief and the celebration of a jub well done. Someone. sumewhere, however has to pick up the tab.

Nearly 300 naval and airforce personnel were actively engaged in the rescue with many more providing logistical back-up. The frigate Adelaide cost \$50,000 a day. The aircraft which spent four days searching the seas cost tens of thousands of pounds an hour

to keep in the air. Then there are the smaller items such as the sonar bouys which were placed alongside Mr Bullimore's yacht and the liferafts which were dropped to him and Dubois.Under international shipping law. the cost of diverting the oil tanker Sanko Phoenix will be

met by the vessel's company. Yet The Australian Defence Minister, Ian McLachlan, was keen to play down the cost of the rescue last night and to emphasise the positive. "This has not been a loss to us but a great morale boost." he said.

store of knowledge, which you can't buy. So it won't be a case of the extra cost to the military of this rescue, because the extra flying and sailing hours involved will simply be taken

off future exercises. Mr McLachlan said the Government was not counting the cost of the rescue mission and was bound by moral and legal obligations to to go the aid of sailors.

The country is obliged by international treaty to rescue people up to 1500 nautical miles off its coastline whatever the cost. "We have done what is required and we would do it

Privately, Australian maritime safety chiefs are annoyed with the Vendee Globe race organisers for allowing com-

Warwick Smith, the Sports Minister, called on the organisers to change the rules. He wants them to adopt safer sailing routes, where the seas are calmer and more easily accessible to rescue craft.

Mr Smith also wrote to his French counterpart, Guy Drut, seeking a joint approach to international yacht race organisers. This week's operation was the furthest ever undertaken by Australia's airsea rescue authorities and stretched them to the limit.

Even so the ultimate success of the mission has clearly bathed Australia in glory. Prime Minister John Howard the professional efforts of the rescue team. Opposition leader Kim Beazley said: The rescue mis-



Price of life: The rescue of Thierry Dubois, left, and

sions are a tribute to the skills. determination and bravery of the members of the Australian defence forces and the service people who took part in the rescue operation.

Unlike the BT Global Challenge round-the-world race. the Vendée Globe has no highprofile insurance sponsor. Mr llimore's £500,000 yacht.



Tony Bullimore may cost more than £3 million

Exide Challenger, was not insured because the race is regarded as one of the most dangerous sporting events in the world and insurers are

reluctant to provide cover. But if lives are in danger in the Southern Ocean again, Australia is certain to go to the rescue again without counting

#### TESTED TO THE LIMIT

Tony Bullimore's survival is a distinguished addition to the annals of human endurance. In the pursuit of adventure, or by sheer bad luck, many have found their ability to survive tested to the limits.

■ 1914: the explorer Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton and his fellow Antarctic expedition members survived 15 mont the ship Endurance when it was cast adrift, crushed by packed ice and buffeted by ice floes.

# 1942: Poon Lim, a 2nd steward in the Merchant Navy. was east adrift on a raft in the Atlantic for 133 days when his ship was blown up under enemy fire. He was spotted by aircraft and picked up in April 1943.

■ 1972: 14 Uruguayans survived 80 days in the freezing conditions of the Andes after their light aircraft crashed near the Chilean/Uruguayan border. They resorted to cannibalism to stay alive.

1982: Anna Conrad was buried by an avalanche at a ski resort in northern California but survived for five days by

■ 1989: four shipwrecked yachtsmen from New Zealand ent 120 days in the upturned hull of their trimaran in the Pacific. They are seagulls and raw fish and were eventually washed up on Great Barrier Island, near Anckland. 1992: James Stott survived for 43 days 2,000 feet up a

Himalayan rockface. He had only two bars of chocolate.

1994: five soldiers survived for three weeks in the Borneo

jungle after going missing on a training exercise. They had

two polo mints and a drop of water a day.

## New Year. New Technology. Old price.



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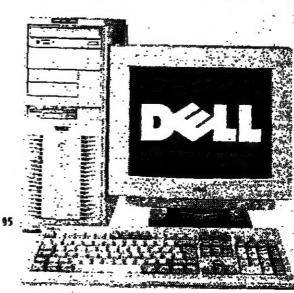
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Briton could be transported from big seas to big screen after agent's mid-ocean call to fame

## Hollywood beckons for real-life Del Boy

By Adrian Lee, Daniel McGrory and Tim Jones

AMONG the telephone calls Tony Bullimore received on HMAS Adelaide yesterday was one from an agent of the Hollywood actor and producer Kevin Cosmer, interested in making a film about his

ealised he was sa

survival story.

What the agent may not have known is that the entire-career of the former Essex barrow boy is the stuff of film legend, though perhaps more suited to Del Boy Trotter than Kevin Costner.

The teenage Bullimore had a yearning for adventure and would constantly play truant from school in Southend-on-Sea with his closest friend. Dave Mathieson. They helped Mr Bullimore's father, Bill, to run market stalls in Romford and Southend, At 15 they launched a wedding photography business on Southend Mr Mathieson, "the luckiest, r. Tony Bullimore was, said guisiest man you could meet. He has always survived by his wits, and is a real rough

He gave up wedding pho-tography after being chased down the road by the angry father of a bride whose pic-tures had not come out, and spotted an advertisement looking for an experienced sailor to crew a yatch to South Africa. He lied about his experience and set sail, picking up odd jobs as a carpet layer and becoming a black belt at judo. He was asked to try out for the

Springboks judo team.

After four years he was persuaded by his family to return to Britain. He could not resist any invitation to take to see and it was during one voyage to the Caribbean that he met his wife, Laiel, in Kingston, Jamaica.

in 1963 he recognised that the influx of West Indian immigrants offered a business. opportunity. He opened the Bamboo Club in the St-Paul's area of Bristol and it quickly became a focus for reggae music. Bob Marley was one of the stars who performed there before the club mysteriously burnt down in the mid-1970s.



Stephen Mulvany is Tony Bullimore's nephew, business partner and "Rodney" to his uncle's "Del"

the Granary Club in Bristol, a late-night venue known for its eclectic tastes, which closed ten years ago. "Like most things he just got bored and wanted to move on," Mr Mathieson said.

He founded his own company, Bradkeyne International, run from a cramped office in Digbeth, Birmingham, buying up bankrupt stock for resale. Adie McLean, the company's office manager and only other employee, said yesterday: "We shifted everyyesterday: "we small thing from toys to shoe polish

Barry Pickthall, the former Times yachting correspondent who sailed with Mr Bullimore in the Round Britain race, said: 'He is an absolute Del Boy, except that he comes from Southend, not Peckham. own Rodney, his nephew and partner Stephen Mulvany. While Mr Bullimore was taken safely on to HMAS Adelaide yesterday, Mr Mulvany was in the tastefully furnished lounge of his uncle's large Victorian house in Westbury Park, Bristol, talk-

ing constantly into one of his two mobile telephones.

He emerged briefly to say he that was in the process of making "two heavyweight deals" to sell his uncle's story that would help to pay to-wards rebuilding his £500,000 yacht. "He put his mortgage and everything on the line so naturally he needs to recoup his losses," Mr Mulvany said. Among the likely endorse-ments that Mr Bullimore can expect are the attentions of the chocolate manufaturers,

were intrigued as to

he could get his hands on," Mr Mulvany said. He added: "We haven't had chance to talk about offers with Tony. We are just thrilled he is alive." In another Del Boy touch,

so it could have been anything

Mr Bullimore has a fondness for using French words. Mr Pickthall said: "I remember once he walked into a lavish club owned by the Aga Khan look around and said. This is very soixante-neuf, isn't it?"
"He is not the most skilled

sailor, but he has a tremendous capacity to succeed and he always gave us a laugh."
On another occasion, while

struggling to raise the money to sponsor his round-theworld challenge, he was left with boxes of a million and a half toy characters from the television cartoon series The would be stuck with them forever, but Tony somehow shifted them," Mrs McLean

Mr Mathieson insisted that Mr Bullimore "could sell ice cubes to Eskimoes" and recounted how, to rescue a deal to sell baby food to Zaire, Mr Bullimore was summoned for an acrimonious meeting with the Zairean dictator, President Mobutu.

"Mobutu was shouting and Tony, who is only 5ft 3in but can handle himself and fears no-one, said, You won't do any business with me until you get some manners.' Mobutu pointed back and said, 'For a white man you have got a big mouth,' but there was mutual respect and the deal was done."

John Lewis, who is secretary of the Royal Western Yacht Club, where Mr Bullimore has been a member for 20 years, said: "He is living proof that this is not a sport just for the privileged. You won't find many braver."

Bob Beggs, a fellow club member and transatlantic yachtsman, said last night: Tony is always the first to put



Lalel Bullimore at home yesterday. She met her husband in Kingston, Jamaica

perhaps come into this sport through their college or their families would never attempt such a voyage. You have to be a little bit mad like Tony, and a true hero."

He said that Mr Bullimore was famed for his love of tea and curries which were too hot for anyone else on board to eat. After yesterday's rescue, his first words were "Thank God - it's a miracle," followed by a request for a cup of tea. Another crewmate. Nigel

irens, with whom Mr Bullimore won the Yachtsman said: "He is a compulsive risktaker, both in sailing and in business. There are two schools of sailor: the regatta type and the adventurer. Tony definitely one of the latter.

"He is at his best when the rulebook goes out of the window. For the sort of thing he goes in for, it is a question of whether you have got the balls for it or not."

To win the 1985 accolade, Mr Bullimore climbed the mast of his yacht to make temporary repairs to a broken halyard when his crew member was on the verge of

retiring. They went on to win the race, "I was amazed," said Mr Irens, who sailed with Mr Bullimore for four years and is now a boat designer.

Bids by newspapers alone for his story had reached more than £160,000 last night. As the offers poured in. Mr Mulvany said: "We don't know if Tony will say yes to anything. He is his own man. But I suspect he might fancy having Kevin Costner play him in the film. Not bad for a Southend boy.'

#### High seas present ultimate challenge

BY EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT

WHY do they do it? It is a question hard not to ask after the dramas of recent days in the Southern Ocean.

The urge to take on solo those untained forces comes from the same inner source that drives others not just to climb the world's highest peaks, but to do so alone and without oxygen. In sailing, the challenge of the sea is there for anyone to face, but for some, the desire to confront the ultimate goal is

overwhelming. It was the British who started single-handed roundthe-world sailing with Sir Francis Chichester, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and Chav Blyth but the French now dominate with a series of races. The Vendee Globe offers the chance of winning the ultimate contest on the world's most dangerous and unpredictable course. The boat must be kept sailing month after month while it is battered by the elements.

There is also a chance to experience one of the last great freedoms, voyaging through some of the wildest places on earth.

So far the Vendée Globe has remained gloriously free of regulation. The boats have to be monohulls, 50 to 60ft long. Beyond that it is largely up to the designers. The course is almost unrestricted as well, though there are three waypoints which the skippers have to leave to starboard to prevent slipping into the icebergs deep down in the Southern Ocean.

In the first race in 1989 only even of the 13 starters finished, while in the second in 1992, 14 started, seven finished and one skipper, the Englishman Nigel Burgess, drowned. This time, halfway through, eight of the 16 who started are out and there have been three rescues.

The huge costs of these operations are placing the race organisers under increasing pressure to further limit the course and the type Leading article, page 21 of boats that can sail it.

## Experience told sallor that his best bet was to stay with his boat

THE secret of Tony Bullimore's survival for five days in the Southern Ocean was his decision not to try to leave his crippled boat.

His 30-odd years of experience of sailing, which has included several perilous capsizes, told him that attempting to leave the hall and get into his liferaft could prove fatal. He put his faith in the realisation that, eventually, someone would come to check the boat to see if he was still in

immediately before the cap-size, Mr Bullimore had weathered a storm, which was followed by four, days of relative calms when he was able to dry out his boat. It was when the storms returned that the keel of Exide Challenger was ripped off, causing the yacht to capsize in seconds.

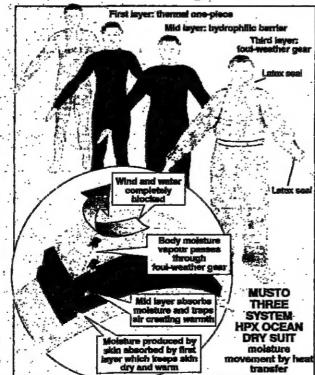
Because of the high sea, Mr Bullimore is thought to have been strapped into his navigation station when the boat rolled 180 degrees. He may not have had the main hatch shut at that moment and lost the tip of his little finger as he attempted to shut it with water pouring in. He found himself

wall when confronted by disaster, and die quickly

from causes that can never be

demonstrated at post-mort-

em examination:



was rising, for the main hull

ers he had been swept away.

Mr Bullimore was wearing Musto, an Essex-based company. That suit and the company's thermal breathable" underwear and middlearound the wrists and neck, a waterproof zip and integral waterproof feet. The "breath-able" middle layers are designed to allow perspiration to diffuse rather than form an icy cold film next to the skin. The third part of the equa-

tion was the emergency positioning indicating radio beacons (EPIRB) which all the competitors in the Vendée Globe were required to carry and which have become indispensable in mid-ocean rescues. There is a range of beacons made by companies around the world but they all work on the same principle. off or set to transmit either an alert signal or a distress signal via satellite to race headquarters. Some can be set to go off automatically when they are immersed in water and many are designed to transmit for Mr Bullimore had one bea-

con on the stern of his boat and another in his liferaft, which was not activated. The third was with him in his upside-down cabin. That initially transmitted an alarm signal before he switched it to distress mode, something which helped to convince the Australian authorities he was alive and in his boat. Knowing that his EPIRB was working, with its light flashing continu-ously at him, will have gone a long way to convincing Mr Bullimore that eventually he MERCURY

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in a dark, noisy, wet and cold had no torch to see what he upside down world. The cabin was doing and kept himself roof windows were now the alive with nibbles of chocolate floor and at least one of them and sips of fresh water. Every burst open with the pressure now and again he dived of the water, producing a through the freezing waterfountain of icy water. Mr Bullimore abandoned lashing on his liferaft, to make

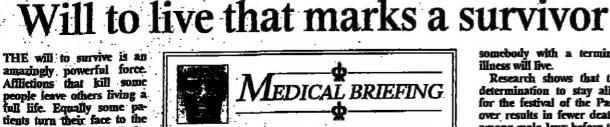
lower down, where he seems to have lashed himself into a bunk to try to keep dry. He under the deck to check the his pilot house at the top of the sure it had not freed itself,

layer clothing are likely to have made a big contribution to his survival, helping to fight hypothermia and frostbite. The dry suit is designed to provide two to three hours'

somebody with a terminal illness will live.

Research shows that the determination to stay alive for the festival of the Passover results in fewer deaths among male Jews before the event, and an increase immediately afterwards. This as one woman of my that she would not die until after she had had a final Christmas with her family.

She died on December 27.



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

However, a love of excitetion. People such as Tony Bullimore - self-reliant anment and drama should not be equated with an ability to swerable to nobody else, able survive hazardous advento detach themselves from tures. When people apply for their domestic background apparently dangerous tasks it and indifferent to what may be no more than a desire others think about this - are to he at the centre of atten- as hard mentally as they are

physically. A successful adventurer must be decisive. calm, and still able to think logically when tired, wet and

The unfathomable will to keep going makes it impossi-

Conversely, other patients, once told that they have an incurable complaint, will die

TESTED TO THE LIMIT

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BRINGING YOU THE WORLD'S LEADING LOTTERY

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 10 1997

Ingenious keepers battle cold and beastly boredom as all but the hardiest animals are stuck indoors

وكذا من الأصل

## It's too cool for cats as big chill grips the zoo

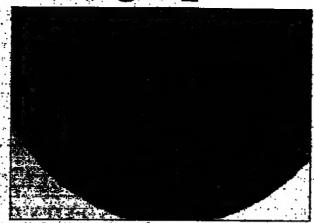
FOR the penguins and the timber walves, it's a bit like a home from home. But the snowy wastes of London Zoo are proving less than hospitable for species from warmer climes. As temperatures remained at freezing point yesterday, keepers were at full stretch to keep spirits up and bodies warm.

The Asian lions Kamal, 3 and Ruchi, 9, have been forced to remain indoors for mine days because the 20ft most that separates them from the few hardy visitors to their enclosure is frozen.

Matt Hennessey, 51, a se-nior keeper in the big cats section, said: We have it keep them in because they could tra to walk over the water, which would not be wise for public safety or their own. They could easily fall through the ice and drown. There's no point in breaking the ice, because it

only freezes over again."

Kamal and Ruchi stayed close to the electrically heated panels in their indoor den, rising only occasionally to peer out of the window like cricketers from the pavilion on a wet day waiting for a break in the weather. Around the corner, a foriorn flock of Chilean pink flamingoes reon single legs to conserve heat and energy, the water level in their pool hav-



Ruchi the lioness peers out of the enclosure where t has been forced to stay in the warm for nine days

in their sheds because the pellets which they eat freeze in

But, as the zoo counts the cost of extra straw and in-creased heating bills, some animals are thriving on the novelty of the coldest winter there since 1962-63.

Congi, the six-year-old rare Vienamese gibbon, which spent its early years as a pet in Jordan, has never seen snow before and thinks it's wonderful. It is the only primate at the 200 to have forsaken the 70F comfort of life indoors to swing among the snow flakes in its suspended plastic tub happy to chatter to anyone fancying a conversation.

Keith Lloyd, its keeper, said: "She loves it. She's like a child seeing snow for the first time:

It's difficult to persuade her back into the warm."

The chimps and gorillas have commanded a large proportion of the extra supplies of straw with which to amuse themselves and keep warm. Cardboard boxes, paper bags and plastic bottles of diluted, vitamin-rich blackcurrant juice have also been supplied as playthings to stave off the

Little needs to be done, however, to keep up the spirits of the Asian elephants, even through the "Arc in the Park" have been suspended in case they slip on the icy walkways and injure themselves.

Dilberta, 17, Layang-Layang, 14, and Mya, 15, scoop up the snow with their

trunks and frisk with their keepers like children enjoying giant ice lollies. "It's a wonderful novelty for them," Brian Harman, the head keeper, said. They like snowballs being thrown at them, and if we build a snowman, they take great delight in knocking

at 50 is the oldest creature in the 200, was said to be coping well with the weather. "She is keeping dry and warm in the parrot house and anyone expecting her obinuary will hopefully have a long while to wait," a spokeswoman said.

Jo Gipps, the director of Landon Zoo, said: The cold weather doesn't really affect the animals at the zoo. Those that like the cold can go out while those that are sensitive are keeping nice and warm." More than 10,000 reindeer have starved to death in Russia's remote Chukotsky Peninsula since freak weather conditions cut off the herds from their traditional winter pastures. A long rainfall fol-lowed by freezing temperatures covered traditional winter grazing areas of the tundra beneath a thick sheet of

Local herders have attempted to drive the remainder of the reindeer to less affected areas, but much of their livelihood and their food source has been wiped out. The herds have also been



The Asian elephants have had great fun scooping up the snow in their trunks

#### Man killed as snow hits travel in South

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

SNOW, ice and freezing temperatures caused traffic chaos, disrupted airports, and inflicted further hardships on wildlife yesterday.

The worst conditions were in south and southeast England, where up to four inches of snow fell in Kent and Sussex. Western Scotland was the warmest region, with tem-peratures of 4C. The coldest spot was Luton, at -IC.

Snow on the runway closed Luton airport for more than two hours. Seven aircraft were diverted to other airports. Stansted airport in Essex was closed for 45 minutes while the runway was cleared

In Surrey, a man was killed and ten people injured in early-morning accidents involving more than 30 vehicles on the Hog's Back stretch of the A31 between Farnham and Guildford and on the A3 between Hindhead and Ripley. In Somerset, accidents Williton and Washford and the M5 near Highbridge.

In Kent, the AA took up to 2,000 calls an hour. The county's ambulance service dealt with around 500 calls an hour, mainly from people who had slipped on ice or been in road accidents.

Weekend shopping, page 10 Forecast, page 24

#### Oxford yields to campaign against Said school site

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD UNIVERSITY has psychology and a Green Party abandoned its controversial plan to site a £40 million business school on a sports ground in the city centre.

day, followed widespread opposition among dons and ity councillors to the use of the Wafic Rida Said business school. The Mansfield Road site was the university's preferred option. Mr Said, who has pledged £20 million towards the project, has given the university until June 21 to

The Syrian-born businessman said in November that he was reconsidering his donation after Congregation, the dons' parliament, voted 259 to 214 against the proposal. A survey funded by Mr Said for the dons' debate concluded that the sports ground was the

only feasible location. Yesterday, - university agreed that the search should sources said that four sites were being considered but none was owned by the university. Buying land could add considerably to the cost of the scheme. Sites now under consideration are thought to include the Radcliffe Infirmary, which is due to move to the main John Radcliffe Hospital site, and car parks at Oxford's railway station and in Worcester Road. However, the hospital is unlikely to move before the planned opening of the business school next year.

Yesterday's decision avoided the need for a postal vote of all 3,200 university members on the use of the former Merton College field, which was given to the university in 1964 provided it remain sports ground "in perpetuity". Mike Woodin, a lecturer in

tion to the plans, said: "I am delighted that we have forced the university to keep its promise not to develop the Mansfield Road site. This saves an important open space warv of the scheme because a majority of business school trustees were appointed by Mr Said, not the university. A university spokesman said: The University of Ox-ford and Mr Walic Said and

Mac Belisle, his new manager, thinks the big striker

have to work on my fitness. I

will then be taken on whether it is possible to proceed. The university and the benefactor remain firmly committed to the goal of develop-ing a world class business school on a central site in Edward Bickham, a spokes-

man for Mr Said, said it was a joint decision to pull out of Mansfield Road to avoid the rancour of a postal vote and further divisive debate. "We had already received hostile signals to the plan from the city council. We wanted to get back on to a reasonable timetable and this seemed the best

his fellow trustees of the Said

Business School Foundation have joinfly agreed that it is not practicable to proceed with

the proposed to build new

premises on the Mansfield Road site for the university's

business school. They have not yet identified an alterna-

tive site which would be suitable and feasible but have

-continue until the end of the

Trinity term. A final decision.

The university has raised £8 million towards its £20 million share of the project.

#### Struggling football club signs up a lord

BY PAUL WILKINGON

thall, when it was still a gentleman's game played by gentlemen, has a team boast-ed a lord among its players.

Alnwick Town FC hopes that the arrival of Lord James Percy will lift them from their position of next to bottom of the Northern League. Lord is the Duke of Northumberland, yesterday signed play-ing forms with the club in the family's home town.

could play an important part in dragging his side up the second divison of the league. Lord James, 31, a bachelor, was more modest. T will

used to play at university ten years ago and it would be great to bang in a few goals for Town. I am just worried they might tear my contract up when they have seen me in action at training." Ainwick's compact St

James's Park ground was built in the 1870s on the Duke's land in the shadow of Alnwick Castle. The present Duke is the club president, but Lord James will be just another player when he pulls on the team's black and white striped shirt. He insists team mates use his nickname.

John Common, the Alnwick chairman, said: "Despite having a member of the aristocracy on the books we are still desperate for eash and Jimmy will have to understand he won't be getting a playing fee or win bonus. I dare say he will have to put up with a bit of ribbing from the lads, but knowing him he will give as good as he gets."

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## A levels wrongly upgraded

Continued from page 1 e conclusions to halt rumours about the severity of marking in English and the impact of a new examining code. The report, by five experi-

enced scrutineers, found so many failings that "it was not possible to have confidence in the validity and reliability of the examinations". Although no grades will be altered. Dr Tate conceded that the inflated scores might have denied candidates who took other syllabuses their rightful university



places. Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, said the board's conduct had been "wholly unacceptable" and added weight to the case for reviewing the examining system. .The Oxford and Cambridge

Examinations and Assessment Council (OCEAC). which is now responsible for the syllabus, said it fully accepted the criticism. However, John Saunders, who chaired the examiners before resigning last July, denied any impropriety. He said it was a "total lie" that the team had been unduly influenced by candidates coming from famous independent schools.

He admitted that some grades 'had been increased without reference to the papers. Time constraints were such that if particular examiners were found to be out of line with the norm, their marks would be increased by a set amount across the board. At a press briefing yester-

day. Dr Tate said: "The way the examination process was conducted was unworthy of an examination board." He had demanded and received assurances that there would be no repetition in any of the board's syllabuses, but no further action was possible. A spokesman for the Inde-

pendent Schools Information Service said: This is a very disturbing report. But there is no evidence of partiality being shown to independent schools." State school head teachers, however, were outraged, John Dunford, head of Durham Johnston Comprehensive School and former president of the Secondary Heads Association, said: "I am appalled that my students may have been put at a disadvantage. It is shocking if candidates from one sector have been given advantages in the competitive world of university admissions.

- Education, page 39

## Cabinet told to ensure more jobs for the girls

CABINET ministers have been told to select women for one in three of all appointments to public bodies and ministerial committees, but

some ministers are aiming higher. The instructions have been issued by Roger Freeman, the Public Services Minister, but it is clear that some ministers are already helping to champion women. Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, and Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, are the men doing most to help women into public life. according to a Whitehall document. They are even beating their two female Cabinet colleagues,

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, and Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary.

Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, and Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, have the lowest proportion of women on departmental committees: 4.7 per cent at the Ministry of Defence, and 9 per cent at the Ministry of Agriculture. But every department is being urged to do better.

Mr Freeman said yesterday: "We are not yet in a position where, statistically, one in every three public appointees is a woman. I want to reach that position quickly,

■ More women than ever are serving in positions of influence on public bodies and committees. The Government is determined to increase their number even further, Valerie Elliott writes

and to go beyond it. It's not positive discrimination, nor an official target, but I believe it's a convenient benchmark and as a minimum it's sensible and achievable."

said: There seemed to have been a considerable break-

down in communication. She was asking for help and it never came. If she had been

given respite care with Rikki,

he would not have been wan-

Neave was "very enthusias

dering the streets that day."

homes since she was two.

The strategy was drawn up after monitoring the first five years of Whitehall achievements in relation to Opportunity 2000, the Business

in the Community scheme to help women in the workplace. Although women now fill 31 per cent of all public appointments, against 23 per cent five years ago, Mr Free-man has asked each department to increase its number of women and members of ethnic minorities. At the Scottish Office, Mr Forsyth women — 43 per cent — and wants — sits on every body.

to increase the proportion to 46. — Mrs Shephard's Department for to increase the proportion to 46.

Mr Howard wants the Home Office to ensure that women make up 45 per cent of all members of public bodies by September 2000 the figure is 40 per cent now - and to maintain the ethnic minority proportion at 16 per teat. He also wants to include at least one

woman on every shortlist. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the North-ern Ireland Secretary, wishes to boost the number of women on public bodies from the present 35 per cent to 40 per cent by 2000, and

Education and Employment has 36 per cent female representation on bodies and committees, but would like to increase that to 45 per cent.

At the National Heritage Department, Mrs Bottomley has 26 per cent of women on public bodies. and is aiming for 35 per cent. Mr Portillo hopes to boost the low showing at the MoD to 10 per cent or 15 per cent by 2000, but Mr. Hogg does not publish a target

The Whitehall rankings for ap-

to ensure that at least one woman pointing women to public bodies and committees, with 1991 figures in brackets: Scottish Office 43.2 per cent (35 per cent). Home Office 40.7 (38); Health 37.7 (26); Education and Employment 36.2 (previously separate departments Employ-ment 24; Education 20); Northern ireland 35.5 (23): Social Security 35.3 (27); Treasury 28.3 (13); Heritige 26.1 (16); Trade and Industry 24.7 (14); Cabinet Office 22.9 (10); Environment 22.5 (19); Welsh Office 22.5 (19); Welsh Office 23.5 (19); Welsh Office 23.5 (19); Welsh Office 25.5 (19); Welsh Off fice 22.1 (18): Lord Chancellor's Department 21.9 (20.4); Foreign Office 21.6 (19): Transport 17.1 (12); Agriculture 9 (5): Detence 4.7 (5).

## Mother blames lack of council help for Rikki Neave's death

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE mother of six-year-old Rikki Neave, who was found strangled near his home after she neglected him for years, yesterday blamed social workers for failing to answer her

Ruth Neave, 28, issued a statement from prison where she is serving seven years for neglecting her children, as a report said Rikki had been ailed by social workers and

authorities (Richard Ford writes).

with their own immediate problems."

management in Cambridgeshire County Council's social services department. The report by The Bridge childcare consultancy made 29 recommendations for new procedures, although the council said some were already in

Neave, who was cleared of the boy's murder last year, called for a public inquiry and blamed social workers for

NEW REPORT, SAME OLD FINDINGS

Children's charities said last night that little had been

learnt from a series of inquries into how officialdom had

failed children who died while in the care of local

John Rea Price, director of the National Children's

Bureau, said: "More or less the same points come up in

each inquiry. It's the same story. The folks on the ground don't talk to each other because of their preoccupation

Many of the criticisms made 25 years ago during the inquiry into the death of seven-year-old Maria Colwell

had continued to appear in later investigations. They

highlight inexperienced officials, poor communication

between agencies and departments, poor record-keeping,

overworked social workers and, at times, too m

adherence to ideology in place of common sense.



Ruth Neave and her son, Rikki, who was killed while playing truant, the mother claimed Cambridgeshire social services had done little to help her look after him

tic" about one of the report's recommendations, that people The Bridge Child Care Devwho had been in care as elopment Service said that in April 1994 Rikki's name was children should be allocated a placed on the child protection social worker if they became register but, although he had been bruised no medical exyoung parents. She was 17 and living in a home when she became a mother and had been in and out of foster amination was made, his child protection investigation was never completed, there was no comprehensive assessment of At her trial, the court was told that Neave had been his needs and a child psychol-

persistently cruel to Rikki and ogist's opinion was ignored. his three sisters. She had Rikki's files kept going missing and appeared to have squirted washing-up liquid into her son's mouth, written been lost for up to two years "idiot" on his forehead and before his death in November 1994. Cambridgeshire social once dangled him over a

ervices was being reorganised in 1994 and there was an unusually high number of disputes among the Peterborough East team responsi-

Gordon Lister, chief executive of Cambridgeshire County Council, was invited at a press conference yesterday to say sorry to Rikki's relatives. He responded: "We have great sympathy with the family."

ble for Rikki:

The former director of social services, Tad Kubisa, has retired. Two social workers were suspended immediately after the trial and another on

the eve of this report's

The family of Rikki's father, Trevor Harvey, are seeking a public inquiry to establish why the wider family was not considered in the handling of Rikki's case.

Sir Herbert Laming, Chief Inspector of Social Services for the Government, has given Cambridgeshire three months to implement the reports recommendations. These in-clude seeking children's own opinions, improving file keeping and following guidelines

#### Brittan outlines risks of two-speed Europe

Sir Leon Britism gave warning yesterday that John Major's call for a two-speed European Union could leave Britain trailing in the wake of France and Germany.

Addressing Conservatives in Bristol. Britain's senior European Commissioner said: "The risk is that a small group of countries forge ahead into new areas of activity. leaving the rest behind, and, worst of all, the leading groups would have a dispressortionate influence. That groups would have a disproportionate influence. That would amount to the division of the European Union into two, and an effective negemony by a small group. Exactly the outcome that Britain has for so long sought to avoid."

#### Protest at Gallagher caution

An all-party group of MPs and peers yesterday protested to the Home Secretary over the Oasis singer Liam Gallagher receiving no more than a police caution for possessing cocaine. Tim Rathbone, Conservative chairman of the Parl-iamentary Drugs Missuse Group, wrote to Michael How-ard that Gallagher's "lenient" treatment would "bring the law hose the case was particularly serious because he was seen as an example by young people.

#### Gardiner's fresh challenge

Sir George Gardiner's hopes of remaining MP for Reigate suffered another blow yesterday after it emerged that more than 350 local Tories had signed a motion of no confidence in him. Many of them have rejoined the party so that they can vote against the veteran Euro-aceptic later this month; more than 100 left last June when Sir George defeated an attempt to desclect him. His opponents hope that if he loses he will seel morally obliged to stand aside.

£500 fine over Hawick ride

One of the leading oppositute of women taking part in Hawich Coimmon Riding was fined \$500 after a sheriff found him guilty of spitting at a woman rider and swearing at other susponters, John Rudkin, 50, a local councillor, had denied breaching the peace on June I when four women joined the Minute ride through Hawick to Denhalm. He was sentenced by Jedburgh Sheriff Court after a hearing last month.

#### MoD could save millions'

The Ministry of Defence could save EZI million a year with more efficient use of electricity, gas and water, according to Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor-General. It could save nearly £2 million by simply checking power and water bills. He praised the MoD for reducing its energy use by 20 per cent in five years but said there was still significant scope. for further savings on the £160 million. bill for power and water.

#### Don quits over fake degrees

The principal of a university college has resigned after colleagues unearthed discrepancies in his Who's Who listing of academic and other achievements. Duane Wadeon Arnold. 43, Principal of St Charl's College at Durham University, had been on leave of absence since the autumn. However, his entry in the 1997 Who's Who, published yesterday, still includes one of the bogus degrees, despite checks with the university.

#### Widow appeals over baby

Diane Blood, 31, the widow seeking to have her dead husband's baby, takes her case to the Court of Appeal on Monday. The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority banned her from using his frozen sperm because she did not have his written permission. As unnamed widow with such consent is expecting twins. She is thought to be the first to become pregnant after sperm from her late husband was injected into her eggs.

#### Wakeham keeps press role

Lord Wakeham has agreed to stay oness chairman of the Press Complaints Commission until the end of 1999. The decision to extend his contract, which was to have expired at the end of 1997, had the Sall backing of Preshof, the newspaper industry board which funds the PCC. Lord Wakeham is widely considered in the industry as wellsuited to fending off statutory controls on the press.

#### Dog-lovers spurn Lassie

Gone are the days of Lassie: Rover, Ginger and Tiddles: six out of ten of dogs names most often chosen by pet-owners, and five out of ten of the favourite cats names also appear among the 50 most popular names for babies. The only traditional pet's name among the top ten compiled by the pet insurers PetPlan, was Tigger. The favourite dogs' name was Max, and the favourite cats' name was Charlie.

## Have your say. if you're with the Woolwich, very important voting papers are being sent to you. It's your chance to have your say in its future. Make sure you cast your vote vote. Send it to us as soon as possible or attend the special general meeting to vote in Your vote has probably never mattered so much. count. It's good to be with the WOOLWICH

The voting papers and an explanatory document will be sent to members of the Woolwich Building Society who will be entitled to vote under the Building Societies Act 1986 and the Society's Rules. The document will contain important information about the conversion of the Woolwich into a bank and full details of entitlement to vote in person or by proxy through the past, Any decision on voting should be based solely on information contained in the document.

#### The Tory club that's ready for turning

BY LIN JENKINS

A CONSERVATIVE dub is considering dropping its af-filiation to the Tories in an attempt to improve its popularity. Members of the club in Ilfracombe, Devon, have been asked to vote on the issue after numbers fell from 700 to 400.

The plan to alter the name to the lifracombe Club has saddened the National Asso-Clubs. Ken Hargreaves, seeretary of the association, said changing would not necessar-ily improve matters since such clubs normally re-mained known by their longestablished names.

Members did not have to be Conservatives. But I would caution that while dropping the word might attract new people, it may work two ways and they lose the people who join only because it is the Conservative Club." Mr Hargreaves said.

Edward Turner, dub secretary, said there were no political connotations in the change. "If it was called Uncle Henry's Club and we changed it to Uncle Thomas's, it would be the same."

He said most members ed to have somewhere to drink play snooker or bilalley. "The simple fact is that we face a lot of competition in the town for the people who might join. We have to find out how we can improve our share of the business."

#### MPs back Asnaown on Labour alliance

By ARCHUR LEATHLEY

LIBÉRAL Democrat divisions

widened yesterday over moves to develop closer ties with the Labour Party. Opponents of cross-party

opponents of tross-party discussions looked increasingly isolated as other MPs entiresistically backed Paddy. Ashdown's drive to influence Labour thinking. MPs led by Liz Lynne, the MP for Rochdale, have criticised the party leadership for becoming inleadership for becoming insions with Labour over constitutional and electoral reform, saying that such an alliance would strip the party of its independence.

However, some colleagues say that an alliance offers the party its best opportunity to influence the pace and extent of devolution and reforms to the House of Lords, as well as of bringing in a freedom of information Act.

Eroma Nicholson, the former Tory MP, said that Ms Lynne was mistaken and was swayed by "doorstep prob-lems" in Rochdale, where the two parties were locked in a bitter contest "I feel in my bones that, without a Liberal Democrat partnership, a Labour government will not be strong enough in its political will to achieve these changes."

Talks between the parties are expected to be completed next month, but they face substantial problems over the Liberal Democrats' demand for Tony Blair to commit

#### 'Demon Eyes' posters win advertising award

By Alexandra Frean, media correspondent

THE Conservative Party's controversial "Demon Eyes" posters have won the 1996 Campaign of the Year award run by the advertising indus-

try magazine Campaign.

The campaign, featuring a picture of the Labour feader Tony Blair with two sinister eyes superimposed on his face under the slogan "New Lab-our... New Danger", cost the Tory party £125,000 but gener-ated an estimated £5 million of free publicity in terms of press and broadcast coverage, according to the magazine. Stefano Hatfield, Editor of

Campaign, said: "The ad set

out to capitalise on the undercurrent of doubt about Tony Blair's personality - does he smile too much and can you trust him? - and it succeeded." Although the actor whose

eyes were used in the campaign subsequently com-plained of the use to which they were put, the controversy surrounding the advertisement was seen as a key to its success. The Advertising Standards Authority subsequently ruled that the poster was offensive to Mr. Blair and asked the Conservative Party to withdraw it, generating yet more publicity for the party. -

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## Bullish Branson plans to reach for the skies again

TIMES TRIDAY JANUARY

krittan outlines risk

Two-speed Europe

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Ser Har Land

RICHARD BRANSON BEW home yesterday and revealed that he would return to Mocircumnavigate the globe in a

ed by the near-fatal collapse of Tuesday's voyage, secured warm support from his wife and children within foots of

and envioren within nours of the emergency landing in the Algerian desert.

Mr Branson, speaking to The Times at the London control centre of the Virgin Challenger, said: "I enjoy life, but I want to try again, I want to do it. I am 99 per cent certain we are going back. But we have to ensure we have the resources to make it practically and technically possible.\*

Mr Branson disclosed that

the crew lost control as the balloon lost height because the sealed helium bubble inside it, which was supposed to provide the buoyancy, cooled too quickly. The sun heated the helium during the day but the three small propane gas burners used at night were either turned on too late or were not powerful enough.

on a private jet from Algiers, where he was a guest of the Government, said: "We dis-cussed at length the technology of heating the helium on the flight home. I'm confident we can get round the problem.



Richard Branson in the Virgin Challenger capsule before the flight which nearly ended in disaster

ng whether it can create a more efficient heating system or whether the fabric of the balloon's enveloce can be

made more hear-absorbent. Mr Branson was home last night for dinner with his wife Joan, 50, and their two child-ren, Sam, 11, and Alex, 14. Mrs. Branson, who had previously were not powerful enough. been opposed to the expedi-Mr Branson, who arrived tion, is prepared to support in a private jet from Algiers, her husband if the helium issue can be resolved. Mr Branson added: "We would return to Marrakesh. It is the ideal setting." The Moroccan Government has already invited the Virgin team.

will be going back." The the courage of Alex Rinchie, 52, Virgin team is already examciambered on top of the capsule at 6,000ft to dump the cylinders and halt Challeng-

> Mr Branson said: "He is even cooler than I thought. If anyone was going to get the cylinders undone it was Alex. He did it in temperatures of 60. I think he saved our lives."
>
> Asked his thoughts at the time, he said: "It is hard to be

er's precipitate descent.

confident when you are heading for the ground at speeds of up to 2,000ft a minute. I remember thinking. If we get out of this alive, I will never do it again'. Three hours later. when we were sitting in the

have a well-developed sense of preservation. But I was glad it was dark and I could not see the ground. I might have fumbled it. In a moment of crisis you do not think about

Mr Branson denied reports that the balloon had consumed too much helium on take off. But be confirmed that early into the flight over the Atles mountains they had been alerted by technicians on the ground that they had omitted to unlock the safety mechanism to release the pro pane gas burners if they had needed to offload ballast.

Per Lindstrand, the second member of the crew, who designed and built the balloon, said: "The safety coupling was a problem at the aunch site. It may have been human error."

Mr Branson, who has ploughed millions of pounds into two failed circumnavigation attempts, made a relatively inexpensive mistake on board when he dumped the crew's food and emergency supplies. He said: "I have just discovered there was \$2,000 about £1,2001 in one of the emergency packs. It's now lying somewhere in the

The crew has been invited to the launch in Switzerland at the weekend of the Breitling Orbiter balloon, which is also attempting to circumnavigate



Mr Branson paying tribute to Alex Ritchie, who risked his life to save the balloon

the globe. Mr Branson said: by the Breitling company with "We will be delighted to be one of their £2,000 watches." there. If they beat us to it, I will take my hat off to them. But we might try to do it even faster next year."

ballast. "It was just a wind-At the end of the press up," he sheepishly confessed. conference. Mr Rischie was Mr Branson paid tribute to embarrassed to be presented the round-the-world vachts-

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MORE AS STANDARD:

man, Tony Bullimore, who was found alive yesterday in He had said the day before the Southern Ocean. "He is that he had thrown his out of typical of the same British spirit of adventure which the balloon in the race to lose drove the Virgin Challenger crew," he said.

Leading article, page 21

#### **Ballooning** craze takes flight at auction

By Dalya Alberge

A PRIVATE collection of 18th-century fans, sewing kits and boxes decorated with images that reflect a ballooning craze which took off in the 1780s is to be sold this

The collection, to be auctioned on January 30, traces the history of the sport. A French portable wooden sun-1783, when the Montgolfier Brothers first demonstrated a balloon, and a French ivory snuff box shows the first human flight in November that year by the Marquis d'Arlandes, who persuaded Louis XVI that he should be sllowed to make the trip. The king had decreed that only condemned men should take such a risk. The objects are

Although a law in Paris forbade any man from taking "young female persons" in a balloon "in case anything untoward happened", the sport remained fashionable for about 18 months. Alexan-

der Crumb Ewing of Bonhams, the auctioneers, explained that as the craze died, so the souvenirs were discarded. "Today, they are extremely rare and we are fortunate that this collection is so rich in contemporary

#### Tonsil test offers early diagnosis of beef-link CJD

and St Mary's Hospital, London, report in The Lancet that they have found a prion protein characteristic of the

diseases which are treatable. whether the disease is spread. The only available means of

was too soon to predict how many cases of the new strain of CJD there would be, but if an epidemic ensued a simple diagnostic test would be essential to monitor its progress. He added: "In the long term we might be able to treat CJD. If that happens, we don't want to wait till they are dementing before they get it. We would want to treat them early."

In sheep, the tonsil test can reveal the presence of scrapie, covered by the same team last similar to BSE in cows and CJD in humans, before symptoms appear. If the human

#### **BMA** calls for ban on commercial surgeries

By JEREMY LAURANCE

PHARMACIES and supermarkets should be stopped from running GP services to save the NHS from privatisation, doctors' leaders said. The British Medical Associ-

ation said it would oppose government plans to allow commercial organisations to employ family doctors becrisk from exploitation. It is to seek an amendment to the Primary Care Bill, now before Parliament, to ensure that only NHS trusts and GP practices are permitted to run

GP services. Under the Bill, published last month, commercial firms can apply to set up and run such services, provided they have the backing of an NHS trust or family doctor. The first moves are expected from NHS trusts, but ministers are keen to encourage maximum innovation and have said they

will consider all proposals. Unichem, one of Britain's biggest pharmacy chains, is the first commercial organisation to declare an interst in the scheme. It has said it wants to set up one-stop health shops combining GP services, minor surgery, chiropody and pharmacy.
On Wednesday, the council

of the BMA voted to protect the NHS from "direct or indirect privatisation". Dr Ian Bogle, chairman of the GPs' committee said that the aim of helping patients could conflict with a commercial organisation's need to make a profit

for shareholders.

The Health Department said: "We have made it quite clear throughout that there is no intention of privatilising the NHS. What we are looking at are services that would be delivered under the auspices of the NHS." No supermarket had expressed interest and there was no indication that

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#### By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT SCIENTISTS believe they versions but virtually identical have found a simple test to BSE give early diagnosis of the new Atthough there is currently strain of Creotzfeldt Jakob distriction of treatment for CID, concess, which is lipked at eating firming the diagnosis is imbeef. At present, CID can be portant because in its early diagnosed with certainty only stages the symptoms are after death.

ther death.
The discovery will show

early signs of dementia would brain biopsy, a dangerous and respond to treatment. The test unreliable operation to reinvolves removing a small move a piece of brain tissue.

piece of tissue from the tonsils. - Professor Collinge said it an easy and safe procedure which can be done under local Professor John Cellinge and colleagues at Imperial College

new strain of CJD in a tonsil sample taken from a 35-yearold woman who died of the The prion protein was dis-October in the brains of people who died with the disease. It

#### provided evidence of a link tonsil test revealed CID before with eating beef because it: symptoms were apparent, it showed that the new variant of could reassure anyone who Leukaemia linked to

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

nuclear discharges

mothers who played on the heach near a nuclear reprocessing plant in Normandy.

The findings challenge current thinking that so-called leukaemia clusters around nuclear stations had nothing to do with radioactive discharge into the expirance.

charges into the environment. The research has emerged from studies of 27 cases of likely to develop lenkaemia.

FRENCH government scientella in people aged tist have found a link between under 25 around the La lenkaemia and children and Hague plant. The findings Hague plant. The findings are published in the British Medical Journal.

the development of lenkae-mia was linked with visits to

The researchers found that the heach and eating local shellfish. It was found that children who visited beaches near La Flague at least once a month were three times more

## Small law firms lose out as face of profession changes

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

women, found most weathered the recession, with the in England and Wales.

pace with inflation, statistics overseas. But it was not gathered by the Law Society enough to keep pace with show. Some sole practitioners inflation and the profession's made as fiftle as £21,000 a growth; so solicitors earnings and profits fell -

and profits fell.

The Law Society research. The statistics highlight the which also discovered that one stark gap between the earn-in three solicitors were ings of big commercial firms and small or one-person firms cent. But the number of in England and Wales. women has risen 188 per cent.

bigger firms faring best those For sole practitioners, the with 11 to 25 partners had a 13 average profit was £46,000, per cent increase in profits in but one in four made £21,000 or less. In firms of two to four 1995 over 1994 or less. In firms of two to tour
The total turnover of the partners, the average profit
\$000 kew firms in England per partner was £52,000 but 25 and Wales rese by 4.5 per cent per cent of partners earned solicitor is 35 compared with in 1994/95 to nearly £7 billion £30,000 or less. For those with 43 for men.

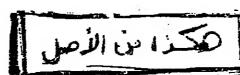
THE earnings of small firms with solicitors accounting for five to ten partners, or il to Z5 of solicitors have failed to keep [53] imillion of earnings from partners, average profits were partners, average profits were £66,000 and £88,000 respectively. Firms of 26 to 80 partners showed average profits per equity partner in 1994/95 of £116.000.

Since 1986, the total number of solicitors with practising certificates has grown 42 per

The statistics show the rapid growth in the profession, by 214 per cent since 1966. Nearly half, 45 per cent, have been qualified for less than 10 years. The average age of a women

Chilling proof that the politicians lied to us on Europe.





115

We always knew it. And now we have the proof.

The politicians took Britain into a federal European superstate by deceit.

This is what the government said in it's official White Paper on Britain's entry into Europe "There is no question of any erosion of essential national sovereignty".

Edward Heath, the Prime Minister, later added "There are some in this country who fear that in going into Europe, we shall in some way sacrifice independence and sovereignty... These fears, I need hardly say are completely unjustified..."

We now have chilling evidence that these statements were lies.

Well before they were made, Britain's Lord Chancellor wrote the letter shown opposite to Heath emphasising that in his view "the surrenders of sovereignty involved are serious..." and "...ought to be brought out into the open now..."

He pointed out that Parliament would have to surrender to Europe the power to legislate. That European law would be the supreme law of this land. That we would lose our sovereign power to make treaties. And that this would lead to a "fully federal state".

Yet Heath and his close colleagues chose to purposely mislead the British public.

And still, to this day, the lies continue as politicians deny the facts and pour scorn on those who warn of Britain's loss of sovereignty.

Quite deliberately they have arranged for the next European Summit, when the important decisions will be made, to take place after the General Election.

This cynical move allows them to continue deceiving us with empty promises until after it is too late.

By then, the people of Britain will be powerless to prevent the politicians going back on their promises and secretly surrendering our sovereign powers.

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This advertisement prepared by Banks Hoggins O'Shea on behalf of the publisher: the Referendum Party, 1st Floor, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF.

## McCartney hits back at widow over song sale

SIR Paul McCartney accused the BBC yesterday of trying to make The Beatles look like "widow-beaters" in an increasingly acrimonious dis-pute over the ownership of lyrics he wrote 30 years ago.

The musician, who was knighted in the new year honours list, reacted angrily to last night's Watchdog programme in which the widow of the band's road manager criticised Sir Paul for seeking an injunction banning her from selling a piece of paper on which he had scribbled the words to With A Little Help From My Friends.

Mal Evans was killed by police in Los Angeles in 1976 after brandishing an imitation gun. His widow, Lily, 60, had

document, which she found among his belongings, would make up to £80,000 at Sotheby's last year. However, Sir Paul, who is believed to be worth about £400 million, obtained an injunction halting the sale and argued that Mrs Evans was trying to sell property that did not belong to

yesterday that he would make sure Mrs Evans and her family were well provided for, but he wanted the lyrics back. The programme is trying to make The Beatles out to be widow beaters. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"I would like to meet Mrs Evans and discuss this and come to some arrangement to see that she is taken care of

and that the lyrics are returned. They were never Mal's lyrics and therefore any relative of Mal's, such as Mrs Evans, does not have the right of ownership to these lyrics.

"I am surprised that Watchdog is doing this report. I thought Watchdog was normally on the side of people who have been ripped off.

Those song lyrics were picked up by Mal Evans as part of his duties as a Beatles employee. They were held in trust by him on behalf of The Beatles. I don't wish to cause any trouble for Mrs Evans or for her children, whom I remember fondly, but I do feel strongly that these original manuscripts should be returned to their owners." Mrs Evans told Watchdog:



"I don't know why he would want to do that. It wouldn't be for the money and he lets other people sell, so I don't know why he would want to stop me. He was a good friend of Mal's and you would think that if I was in Paul's shoes I would want to be helpful, rather than

hinder. She said that her husband, who was The Beatles' road throughout the

1960s, had left her without a pension. "If he had remained in his Post Office job I would have been better looked after."

Mrs Evans's son, Gary, said that his father and Sir Paul had been "best buddies". He added: "I think of everything Dad did for him. He'd be on 24 hours' notice and he'd do anything for Paul, he loved the guy. I don't think he can have

Geoff Baker, Sir Paul's publicist, said that approaches had been made to Mrs Evans through her lawyers and one of Sir Paul's personal assistants had visited her to make a generous financial offer. "It is mystifying why she is doing this. Paul has said that, if she

is facing hardship. The Beatles will make sure she and her children are taken care of." He added that the band

had paid off her mortgage after her husband died and that she had made money through sales of other Beatles'

memorabilia. Watchdog said that Sir Paul had refused to respond to its questions about the proposed sale, but Mr Baker said that no approaches had been made through him.

Pop. page 34

## TV detective returns Betjeman's long-lost wandering ghost to the screen



By Alexandra Frean MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

FIVE travel films by Sir John Betjeman, believed to have been lost for more than 30 years, have been tracked down after two years of detective work by a television producer. He set out on his quest after stumbling across part of the footage

in a warehouse attic.
The films, in which the former Poet Laureate makes a plea to save the beauty of small English towns, are described by Gerry Dawson, who found them, as a "classic insight into English social and cultural history".

Mr Dawson, a producer for the ITV company HTV, began by looking through film cans found in the disused HTV scenery warehouse in Cardiff for anything of interest. The cans were so rusty that the only way to open them was by banging them on a concrete floor, but the film inside was in remarkably good condition," he said. "I put it in an old viewing machine and saw that there were shots of Weston-super-Mare. Suddenly a bloke wearing a straw hat appeared and I recognised Betjeman."

Made in 1962, the films mainly offer Betjeman's idiosyncratic views on seven West Country towns -Devizes, Northlew, Swindon, Chiptham, Crewkerne, Sherborne and Sidmouth. He told viewers:

"I'm not a mad preservationist, but I hate to see the heart of an old town. left to go to ruin. No one wants slums preserved, but thousands of old cottages, condemned and dead, could so easily be repaired."

At that time sound was recorded on separate reels and, because the soundtrack was not available for the first reel he watched, Mr Dawson did not know what he had discovered. Research led him to Jonathan Stedall, who had directed Betje-

He had kept the scripts, from which Mr Dawson discovered that there were five films in the series. The Devizes footage was traced to a blacksmith, an amateur historian, who had kept it behind a bookcase. More was found in film libraries and another old HTV building. The

films, some with soundtracks rere-corded by Nigel Hawthorne, will be shown on Channel 4 for three weeks, starting tonight.

## Frozen fields lift prices of fresh vegetables

THE freezing weather is hit-ting supplies of fresh vegeta-bles, especially cauliflowers, spring greens, Brussels sprouts and leeks, though prices are still said to be average for the time of year. Main-crop potatoes are back. up to 10 to 14p a pound. There are, though, good supplies of broccoli, courgettes and salad tems imported from Sp

Some species of fish are also in short supply, but whiting is a good buy at £1.10 to £1.65 a pound according to size. Announced promotions include: Asda: fresh pork chops £3.99 kg, avocados 99p for five, onions 32p for 1.25kg, Suntina oranges EL49 for 1.25kg, ly-

chees 79p for 250g. Budgens: fresh whole chicken 13.29 for 1.9kg; smoked Dutch back bacon rashers £1.39 for 250g, large eggs 99p for 12, crumpets 28p for eight.
Co-op (CWS): Bernard Matthews frozen crispy crumb turkey burgers 64p for 283g,

McCain Chippy chips 89p for 1.8kg. Harrode: Parma ham 13.79 Harrode: Parma ham 13. No for 100g. Vienna sousages, 99p for 100g. French pares 15 for two 250g mbs. feeland: pork chops f3.95 for six, fish and chops for two £1.99, coley fillets £1.92, for 680g, peas 79p for 907g.

Marks & Spencer: family size Cumberland rie 12.49, salm on Cumberland pie El 59 each. marinated gammon steak Safeway: rump steak £6.06

kg, six large chicken breast fillets £5.32 kg, chicken tikke masala £1.99 for 340g. Somerfield: pork loin chops £3.37 kg. smoked haddock fillet £3.72 kg. baking potatoes 9p lb, fine beans 68p for 250g. Waitrose free range chickens. (lkg to 23kg) £299, duckling (1.9kg to 25kg) £279. North-Atlantic cooked and rected

prawns £1.49 for 115g. ROBIN YOUNG

#### **Bupa faces** trading ban in Ireland

Michael Noonan the Irish Health Minister, threatened to ban Bupa from operating in Ireland if it did not after its healthcare policies. He claimed that they discriminated against the sick and elderly. Under Irish law all health insurers must abide by a community rating and charge a healthy 25-year-old the same as a frail 85 year old. Bupa was set up in the Republic in November in opposition to the state-owned Voluntary Health Insurance

#### RAF jet crashes

An RAF fighter pilot ejected from his Harrier GR7 as it crashed on the runway at its home base in Germany. The pilot broke his leg in the incident at the Laarbruch airbase on the German-Dutch border, but nobody else was hurt. The Harrier had no weapons on board.

#### Boy, 10, charged

A ten-year-old boy has been charged with affray and wounding with intent over an incident in which a woman's eye was pierced with a knife outside a primary school in Doncaster, south Yorkshire The boy was bailed to reap-pear before magistrates on February 13.

#### N-plant fire

A nuclear reactor has been shut down after a small fire at Heysham power station near Morecambe in Lancashire Nuclear Electric said the fire, which started after an oil leak in a turbine, had been put our immediately. The reactor would remain closed pending repairs and an investigation. Shops dividend

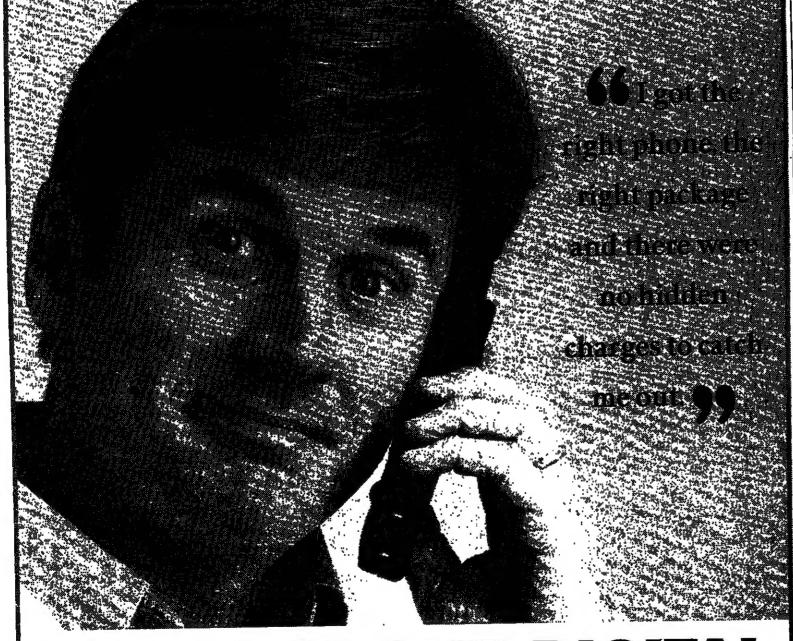
#### Gyle shopping centre from the city council for £122 million. The council may be able to cut the tax for band D properties. by E17, or it could spend the money on education and mansport projects.

Council tax in Edinburgh may be reduced after Marks & Spencer agreed to buy the

Protesters bailed Three road protesters accused of criminal damage to the index of Sir G the Transport Secretary, at Cookham. Berkshire have been freed on hail by Maidenhead magistrates. Seven other

#### magistrates next month. 300th millionaire

Malcolm Cosmber, 49, as accountant from Sutton. Surrey, became the National Lottery's 300th millionaire since its launch more than two years ago after sharing the week's jackpot with ten other He won El,016,676. He plans to buy a red Ferrari.



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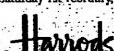
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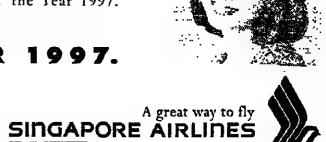
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Britain's 900,000-strong Indian community 'reinforces values and creates unbreakable bond'

## Major woos Asian voters as campaign goes to Calcutta

JOHN MAJOR blazed the election trail 5,000 miles from home yesterday when he used a speech here to make a barely veiled pitch for the millionplus Asian vote in Britain.

In a speech to the Confederation of Indian Industry before an audience of several thousand in a vast indoor Minister praised the 900,000strong Indian community in Britain, speaking of its thrift, hard work and entrepreneurial flair.

He said the community reinforced British values such as the importance of the family, the need for a sound ethical framework to govern conduct and a belief in the ability to make life better for its children through education and enterprise. In schools, the health service, local government and Parliament, as well as in the private sector, the Indian community made an "important, thoughtful and highly appreciated contribution". Mr Major declared.

On his way to India. Mr Major said that although the election would be important when it came, the "normal activities of government must proceed". He was responding to MPs and ministers who have privately questioned whether he should be out of the country with the election

effectively under way. He has emphasised that the main purpose of his trip is to boost British trade - he is accompanied by more than 50 of Britain's leading industrialists - and to mark the liftieth anniversary of Indian independence. But he found it difficult from the moment he landed in Calcutta yesterday to get away from echoes of the

domestic campaign. Hundreds of people had turned out at an early hour to line the route into the city from the airport, and throughout the day he received a statesman's treatment. When he visited the Swinhoe Lane slum, renovated with British

**6** The trip's main aim is to boost British trade and mark 50 years of independence 🤊

aid money, Mr Major and his wife Norma were drummed in and serenaded out by residents blowing conch shells. It felt almost like an election.

He had begun the week with a row over beggars with Tony Blair. But here, hundreds of thousands of protesters had Operation Sunshine, a hardline move to clear the streets of illegal street traders. They claimed it was all done to coincide with his arrival and accused the authorities of allowing a new form of colonialism. It was claimed that the

with great brutality.

Then, in his speech to the higgest audience he has faced, Mr Major appeared to confirm that there was an elector-al reason behind his trip, apart from the credit he believes he receives for being seen on the world stage.

He spoke of the huge contribution made by the Indian community, one that had pros-pered and widened. "As an integral part of British society they create an unbreakable bond between our countries."

The South Asian vote in in India, Pakistan and Bangla desh — is some 3 per cent of the population, making it easily the largest ethnic grouping. Labour calculates that in 12 of its top 60 target seats the Asian vote could be decisive. The two largest are in Hord South and

Suspicions that Mr Major might use his trip to bolster the Asian vote had been fuelled by the disclosure that he is soon to address a meeting of the Asian community at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London.

Shortly after his arrival. Mr Major witnessed the signing of three joint ventures with Indian companies. He also announced that Britain would grant £41 million for primary education in West Bengal, and watched a few overs of a cricket match between Lancashire and Eastern Region.

Leading article, page 2)



## £50,000 pledged for research to save Bengal tiger

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

AN APPEAL to India to do more to save the threatened tiger was delivered by John Major in Calcutta yesterday.

More than half the world's 7.700 or so tigers in the wild live in the Indian forests, but their numbers are falling because poachers are slaughtering them and selling the carcasses for use in traditional medicine. The Prime Min-inter told the Confederation of Indian Industry that trade must have a heart and a conscience as well as a profit. He said: "I very much regret the sad fact that the tiger has become one of the most co-

dangered animals in the world today."

British officials said that Britain was to give £50,000 to groups researching ways to improve conservation methods. Mr Major welcomed the steps India was taking, but said that more needed to be done. Britain would continue to work with India and other

m work with India and other countries to find a solution. He added: "The tiger is a proud and glorious animal. We must ensure his survival so that our great grandchildren can enjoy his grace and power as much as we do."

The Indian tiger population, estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 animals, is down from

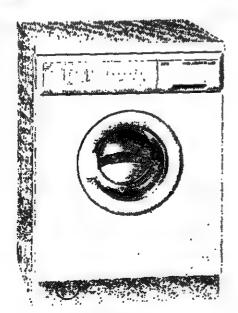
4,000 animals, is down from about 40,000 at the beginning of the century. The race living on the Indian subcontinent is the Bengal tiger. Three races, the Caspian, the Bali and the Javan, are extinct. The last surviving races are the Ben-gal, the Indo-Chinese, the Sumatran, the South China and the Amur or Siberian. All tigers are protected

under the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species. It bans trade in tiger parts, skins and bones. But the demand for tiger parts to supply the Chinese and oriental medicines trade has led to poaching throughout the 1990s, Booming human populations and their need for housing and farmland are also bring ing the tiger increasingly into conflict with villagers.

India has 21 reserves specifically managed for tigers con-taining about a third of the remaining animals. They are also found in a further 80 protected areas. However, as new areas are added, some reserves are under threat. The key Melghat reserve is to be reduced in area by a third to



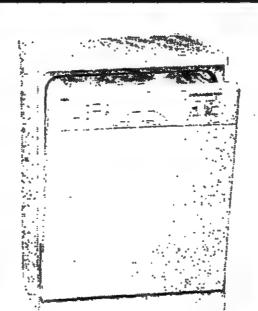
Bengal tiger: not more



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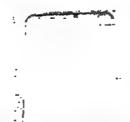
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ADVANCED ENGINEERING FROM GERMANY

#### 60 troops killed in Sri Lanka attack

FROM VLITTHA YAPA IN COLOMBO

SIXTY Sri Lankan soldiers were killed yesterday and more than 200 injured when Tamil separatists attacked two army camps in Paranthan and Elephani Pass, northern Sri

Lanka, military sources said. They added that more than 500 terrorists from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eclam were either wounded or killed in the pre-dawn attack, according to rebel sources. In addition to attacks from the land using heavy artillery, Tamils had turned up in boats. Army sources said they suspected that the heavy artil-lery used had been captured

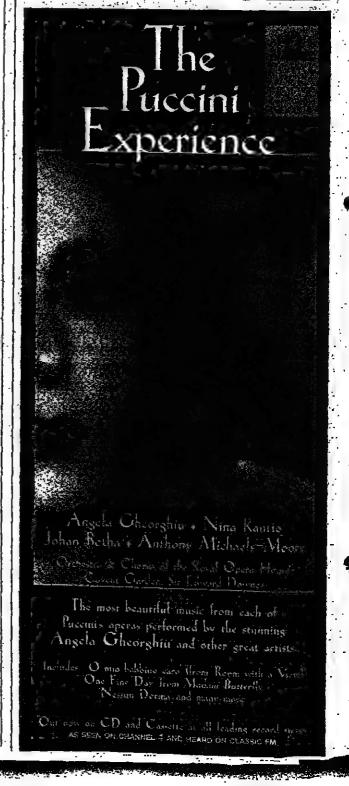
when the Tamils overran an

army camp at Mullamivu last

ear, killing more than 1,000 soldiers. Twenty-two seriously in-

lured soldiers were flown vesterday to Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital, for treatment. Military sources said the death toll could be much higher. The Tigers fled from northern territories attacked by Sri Lanka's armed forces

.The attack took place as the Government was working on devolution plans. The Justice Minister has said the Government may hold a referendum if the opposition United National Party does not co-operate to achieve the majority needed to pass the legislation.



Hitler's treatment of the Jews.

town came in an open letter to Helmut Kohl which the Ger-

man Chancellor rejected yes-

terday. The 34 signatories, Herr Kohl said, "have no idea

about Germany and do not

want to learn about the coun-

try; otherwise they would nev-

er have dreamt up something

The letter, published in a full-page advertisement in the International Herald Tri-

bune, seemed to signal an all-out publicity offensive on behalf of the Scientologists.

"We implore you to bring an end to this shameful pattern of

organised persecution," the stars said. "It is a disgrace to

Film stars such as Tom

Cruise, Nicole Kidman and

John Travolta, who are mem-

bers of the Church of

Scientology, have already pro-

tested about what they regard

as persecution. But as German authorities consider

whether to monitor Scient-

ologists with the help of plain-

ciothes police, and as Scientologists are excluded

from some Civil Service jobs.

so the anger of the Hollywood

establishment has increased.

the German nation. The signatories said that they were not Scientologists.

like this".

The broadside from Tinsel-

in any country that conceives of itself as a modern democra-

cy. This organised oppression

is beginning to sound familiar ... like the Germany of 1936 rather than 1996. It should be

stopped - now, before it

spreads and increases in viru-

The letter was signed not only by Mr Hoffman and Ms

Hawn, both of whom have

films showing in German cin-emas, but also by Oliver Stone, the director, Gore Vidal

and Mario Puzo, the writers,

Larry King, the CNN talkshow host, and producers

such as Aaron Spelling and

The appeal was directed to

Hawn: has film showing

in German cinemas

Cherry Lansing.

lence as it did before."

Herr Kohl partly because he is

chairman of the Christian

Democratic party, which has

been the most energetic in

The youth wing of his party

organised a boycott of the film Mission Impossible because

its leading actor and co-pro-

ducer was Cruise. Chick Corea, the American jazz pianist, had to cancel his

performance at a state-spon-

sored concert in Stuttgart

because of his association with

Scientology.

The protesting Hollywood stars compared such boycotts

and bans with the Nazi book-

burnings of the 1930s. Ed-mund Stoiber, Bavaria's conservative Prime Minister,

has described Scientology as a

"subversive, intolerant, racist

organisation that wants to

replace our society with a totalitarian regime". From last November, applicants for jobs

in Bavaria's Civil Service have

been questioned about their

links to Scientology and are

rejected if they are associated

with the group.

Other regional politicians have also accused the sect of

being a danger to German

society and have called for the

group to be put under surveil-

lance or even banned. Howev-

er, the country's 16 regional

combating Scientology.

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min passerday to anaca writers yesterday to anaca German discrimination against Scientologists, comparing Bonn's policies with

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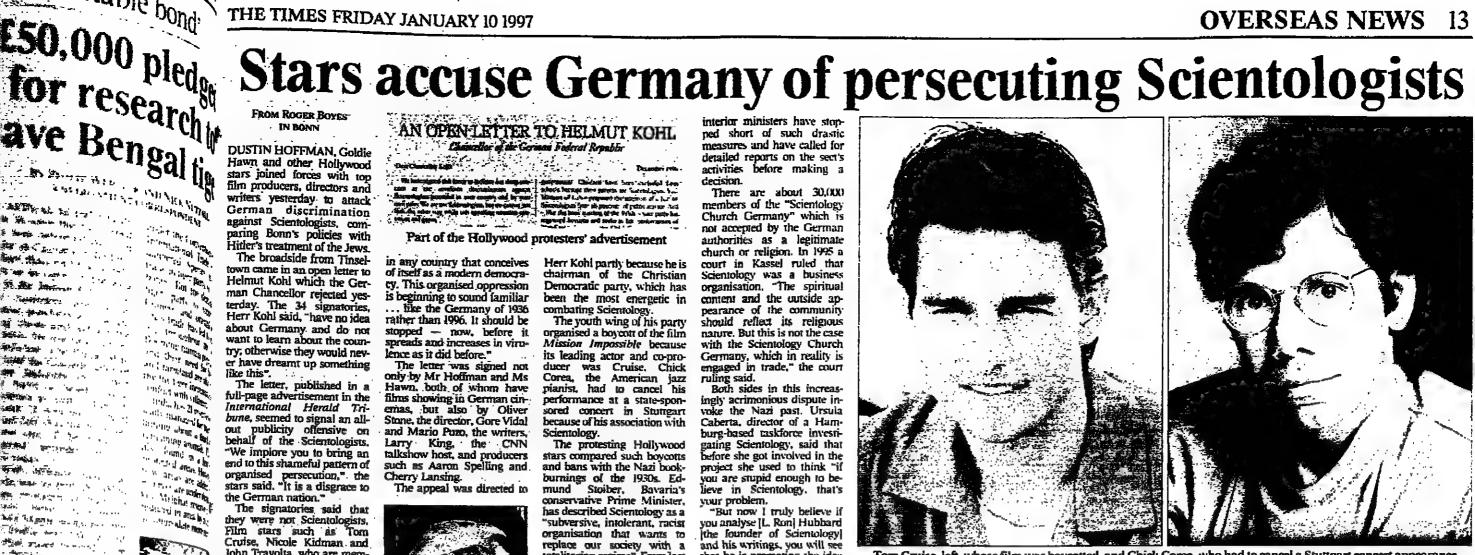
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Tom Cruise, left, whose film was boycotted, and Chick Corea, who had to cancel a Stuttgart concert appearance

made religious intolerance official government policy, Jews were at first marginalised. then evaluded from many ac-tivities, then vilified and ultimately subjected to unspeakable horrors ... in the 1930s, it

المحكدا بن الأصل

church or religion. In 1995 a

court in Kassel ruled that

Scientology was a business

organisation. The spiritual

content and the outside ap-

pearance of the community

should reflect its religious

nature. But this is not the case

with the Scientology Church

Germany, which in reality is

engaged in trade," the court

ruling said.

Both sides in this increas-

ingly acrimonious dispute in-

voke the Nazi past. Ursula

Caberta, director of a Ham-burg-based taskforce investi-

gating Scientology, said that before she got involved in the

project she used to think "if

you are stupid enough to be-

lieve in Scientology, that's your problem.

you analyse [L. Ron] Hubbard

the founder of Scientology

and his writings, you will see

that he is promoting the idea

of a totalitarian state and of

the Übermensch | the super-

man]. Instead of talking about

Aryans, as Hitler did, he is

talking about Scientologists.

Because of our history we have

to be much more careful about

this kind of thing spreading."

ers approached the problem

from the opposite corner yes-

terday. "In the Germany of the 1930s." they wrote, "Hitler

The star-studded letter writ-

"But now I truly believe if

When Cruise and other Scientologist stars made similar links in newspaper adver-

was the Jews. Today it is the

Scientologists.7

tisements last year, Ignaz Bubis, the head of the Jewish community in Germany. described such claims as offensive and insulting to millions of Jewish victims of the Holocaust. The US State Department

also distanced itself from the pro-Scientology advertise-ments, saying: "This is an outrageous charge against the German Government by an American group. It bears no resemblance to the facts of

The Scientologists have operated uneasily in Germany since the 1970s, but despite occasional frictions, there has been nothing to match the intensity of the present row. Several German Cabinet min-

what is going on there."

the campaign. Claudia Nolte. the Family Affairs Minister, argues that "Scientology aims for world domination and the

destruction of our society". The Scientologists deny that they have any political aims. They say that their critics are misinformed and that religious freedom is under threat.

Michael Gove, page 20



major coup in its international quest for credibility, enlisting a brace of powerful Hollywood lununaries with no direct link to the group to support its persecution claims.

Closer study of the list of signatories to yesterday's open letter reveals, however, that many have close and lucrative ties to the world's two besttop box-office draws Tom Cruise and John Travolta.

Dustin Hoffman, Aaron Spelling, the relevision producer, and Sidney Sheinberg, the former Universal Studios' chief, are among high-profile Jewish signatories to back the letter's claims. But many others appear to have feared films starring Travolta and Cruise - and his wife and fellow Scientologist Nicole Kidman - might be boycotted by German cinemagoers who represent a third of Hollywood's booming European

market. As the star of Mission Impossible, which took \$180 million in America alone, and of the current hit about an idealistic sports agent, Jerry Maguire (\$83 million and counting), Cruise, 35, acknowledged as the world's most bankable actor.

Six of the executives most



Travolta: phenomenal

intimately involved in the multimillion-dollar industry surrounding him have signed the letter to the International Herald Tribune: John Calley, head of Sony Pictures, which is distributing Jerry Maguire; Sherry Lansing, head of Paramount Pictures, which released Mission Impossible: Terry Semel, head of Warner Bros, which will distribute Cruise's next film; Jack Rapke and Rick Nicita, senior agents who oversee his career at the Creative Artists' Agency: and Paula Wagner, his partner in his own production company.

Ms Wagner is thought to be a Scientologist. The other five, not known for publicly supporting Scientology, may be observing the first rule of business in Hollywood's cutthroat environment — it never pays to alienate a star on a hot

The same appears to be true of Fred Westheimer, Travol-ta's agent at the William Morris Agency, who also signed the letter. Travolta's meteoric professional resurrection since his star turn in Pulp Fiction in 1994 has included such unlikely hits as Phenomenon and Michael. currently tied at number one with Jerry Maguire in the American box-office charts.

Phenomenon, about a countryman experiencing heightened awareness before dying from a brain tumour, took \$104 million in America and included thinly disguised paeans to "clear" thinking - a

core aim of Scientology. Other stars known to be practising Scientologists include Kirstie Alley, Mimi Rogers (Cruise's ex-wife). Sonny Bono, Nancy Cartwright and the jazz pianist Chick Corea.

The 40-year-old church recently suffered a legal blow when a long-running lawsuit against Time magazine over a wounding 1991 exposé was dismissed by a US federal

#### Fast-growing sect wins credibility in Britain

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTOLOGY, which was II nationwide, was set up to brought to Britain in 1954, is gaining up to 4,000 recruits a year, and now has more than 100,000 members in this country.

The religion has been gaining credibility and acquired significant new recognition when, under new Home Office guidelines published at the end of last year. Scientology leaders were granted the right to enter the country as recognised religious ministers. Although the sect has so far failed to attract celebrity support as it has

done in the United States, it has a small church in central London similar to that frequented by the Hollywood stars in Los Angeles. The London church, one of three

established in the capital and

with the publication of Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health, by L Ron Hubbard, who believed a person is neither a body nor a mind, but a spiritual being. The sect claims to be a religion in the most traditional sense, dealing with the person as spirit rather than the product of

Scientology began in 1950

serve British celebrities.

material circumstances. The church has in the past been defined as a cult by the Home Office, and in 1968 was deemed "socially harmful". Members were barred from entering Britain to study or

The group has also applied for charitable status, and a decision is pending.



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## Kohl rejects vote on euro in face of record jobless toll

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, yesterday ruled out the possibility of holding a referendum on economic and monetary union (EMU) although nearly threequarters of Germans say they favour such a vote before giving up the mark.

I'm a committed supporter of representative democracy." he said. Germany had negative experiences with referendums in the interwar Weimar Republic and to introduce it now "would lead quickly to another kind of republic".

Herr Kohl was responding to an opinion poll which showed that more than half of Germans are against introducing the single currency in January 1999. The survey revealed that only 15 per cent be as strong as the mark.

The German constitution makes no provision for holding referendums but pressure

it to enable a popular vote on the curo. The poll, conducted by the Forsa Institute and published yesterday, showed that 73 per cent of Germans millennium. want a referendum. But the Chancellor, in his

traditional new year news conference, thundered: "I am against it in principle." No other country in Europe, he said, voted as often as the Germans; polls in 16 regional states occur throughout the

mans the chance to air their views on the shift to EMU. Herr Kohl said he had little doubt that Germans would in any case vote for the euro if a referendum were held. "We have a clear majority in the

political calendar, giving Ger-

business community," he said. The euro's potential for crearing jobs is a matter of dispute. The arguments could intensify after figures released yesterday showed record postunemployment

trade union federation said the true number was nearer seven million. But Herr Kohl declared that it was possible to halve unemployment by the

He also echoed - though more diplomatically - the comments by Klaus Kinkel. his Foreign Minister, about the need for Britain to decide its future European course. Herr Kinkel's comments angered British Eurosceptics. "I know Klaus Kinkel was

criticised in the British media and I have no intention of meddling in the internal affairs of Austria . . er, sorry, England," Herr Kohl said. But Britain had to hold its election by May and "this placed it right in the middle of the critical talks on the intergovernmental conference."

British politics, there were many competing views on the EU. "So this election is a clear



An anti-riot policeman is fed with a biscuit by a young woman during a student protest in Belgrade yesterday

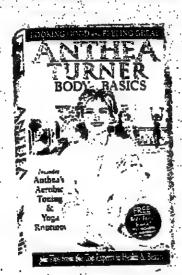
#### Belgrade opposition keeps up pressure

THE partial climbdown this week by President Milosevic over election results in Nis. Serbia's second tity, has failed to lift the pressure on his Socialist Government the centre of Beigrade re-mains paralysed and there in 42 other towns and cities,

"Milosevic's gesture means nothing as far as we are concerned," said Vuk Draskovic, leader of the Zajedno opposition coalition: "He tried to steal Belgrade and his

Nis is the dominant city of southern Serbia and a traditional industrial bastion of Socialist support. The second round of elections in November gave the opposition a clear majority and 41 seats. The results were revoked by Mr Milosevic, but partially reinstated two days ago as part of a conciliatory feint when state TV announced that Zajedno's victory in Nis gave the opposition 37 seats.

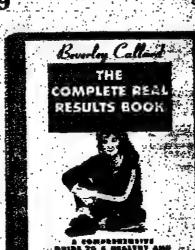
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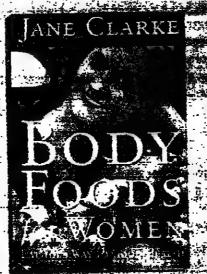


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#### Date set for Nigerian elections

Abuja: Nigerians are due to go to the polls on March 15 in the country's first municipal elections on a party basis since General Sani Abacha seized power in November 1993, the electoral commission said yesterday. Five registered parties will field candidates.

The elections should have taken place in the last quarter of 1996 under a phased programme for the transfer of power from General Abacha's military leadership to a demoelected presidency. However, the commission - October I, 1998. (AFP)

#### Dhaka leader freed from jail

Diraka: Hossain Mohammad Ershad, the former President of Bangladesh, who was freed from jail yesterday, said he would soon resume an active political life. He denied oppo-sition claims that his bail on corruption charges was the result of a deal between his Janya Party and the Awami League of Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister. (Reuter)

#### Visa snag delays Rwanda tribunal

Arusha: The United Nations tribunal on Rwanda's 1994 enocide opened in the Tanzanian city but was adjourned arrived from Rwanda to testify arrived from Rwands to testury against Jean-Paul Akayesu, a Hutu former government offi-cial. They had experienced visa problems, Almost a mil-lion. Tutsis and moderate Hutus died in 1994. (Reuter)

#### Russian space monkey dies

Moscow: Multik, one of two Russian macaque monkeys that were wired to electrodes in scientific experiments during a two-week space mission that ended on Tuesday, has died in an accident at a Moscow research centre unrelated to the flight, the Tass news agency said. (Reuter)

#### Here's licking at you, kid

Washington: The late actor Humphrey Bogart is to have a US postage stamp dedicated to him next year, the third in a Legends of Hollywood series after Marilyn Monroe and James Dean. The stamp image is to be based on a poster advertising the 1946 film. The Big Sleep. (AP)

#### **Embattled** Mobutu flies back to France

FROM BEN MACINTYRE

PRESIDENT MOBUTU of Zaire flew back to France for medical consultations yesterday, three weeks after he returned home vowing to crush the rebel uprising that has plunged his country into

Mr Mobutu had spent four months in Europe recuperating from cancer surgery as the Rwandan-backed rebels advanced in eastern Zaire. He returned to Kinshasa on De-

ceodbet 17. After reshuffling his Government and the army high command and announcing on the rebels, he announced on Wednesday night that he was returning to his villa on the Côte d'Azur. Zairean officials would not say how long he planned to stay, but Paris has issued him with an

extendable three-month visa. After arriving in Nice by private plane, Mr Mobutu, 66, and his retinue of family members, servants and body guards drove in a convoy of II. vehicles to his luxury residence, the Villa del Mare, in the nearby town of Roque brune-Cap Martin. The President underwent an operation for prostate cancer in Switzer-land last August, but the Swiss authorities have re-

fused to renew his visa. Presidential aides said the reasons for Mr Mobutu's return were entirely medical. but with hundreds of European mercenaries reported to be preparing to back the disorganised Zairean Army in a counter-attack on rebel postions, his departure comes at a critical moment Lauren Kabila, the rebel leader, has promised to oust Zaire's ruler of 31 years and Mr Mobuto has refused to negotiate with

His unexpected return may be seen as a sign that Mr Mobutu believes his troops have little immediate hope trained and well-equipp rebels, with or without from mercenaries.



Mobutur returning for "medical reasons

#### Nile flourish by Mubarak

Toshka, Egypt President Mubarak of Egypt yesterday launched a controversial plan to use Nile water to make the Western Desert bloom On the banks of the lake

behind the Aswan High Dam. Mr Mubatak detonated a symbolic explosion at the site of what Egypt says will be the biggest pumping station in

Within about four years,

across the Western Descriirrigating at least 500,000 acres of virgin land to be settled by millions of people. More than 60 million Egyp tians live in the Nils Valle and Delta, which make u only 4 per cent of the country lano area. The rest is descri-Some experts fear that the project will be an expensive failure. (Reuter)



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HES FRIDAY JANUARY

## Bupat Hormones 'tainted in India With CJD' given to French children

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

STATE pharmaceutical offici-

Boy 10 the same same year, over blood tainted with the Aids virus. same year, over with the Aids virus.

L'Express cited a court

als in France knowingty one dwarfsm in children were use tributed growth hormones to dwarfsm in children were use tributed by pharmaceutical officials without first heing officials without first heing portalleging that about 20,000 health officials and a compen-hormonal pills to combat sation bill of more than Fr5 dwarfism in children were dis-billion. Three former Cabinet

children that could cause the first leave to this conficial section first being to an investigation by a Prench weekly magazine.

As many as 1,000 children may have been infected by the annext growth drugs in 1985 and at least 40 have since died, according to LExpress.

Marie-Odile Bertella-Geffory the investigation magistrate, has reportedly launched a formal legal investigation into four doctors and tributed by pharmaceutical tributed by pharmaceutical officials without first being treated to climinate the prion or infectious agent that can cause CID.

Destroying the pills, containing possibly infectious hormones, would have meant losses of about Fo.5 on allicontent of the investigating magistrate, has reportedly launched a formal legal investigation into four doctors and tributed blood stocks contaminated with the Aids virus.

L'Express.
In 1985, health officials dis-tributed blood stocks contami-nated with the Aids virus, after refusing to spend money on technology from the United States to treat the blood. At least 1,200 harmophiliac victims were infected and 400

billion. Three former Cabinet ministers have been charged with poisoning in that case. Hervé Gaymard. France's Health Minister, promised a

tions and said that prosecutions would be bron warranted. He said the drugs, using hormones entracted from the pituitary glands of corpses, were no longer in use and had been replaced by synthetic hormones. L'Express said the hormones were taken from corpses at hospitals specialising in contagious diseases and senile dementia.

Jean-Claude Job, the president of France's Pinniary Institute in 1985, and Fernand Dray, the research director at the Pasteur Institute, are among those under investigation.



فكذا من الأصل

One of the rebels holding hostages at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima

#### Siege rebels in 'safe passage' talks with Lima

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN LIMA

THE Peruvian Government is negotiating a safe passage for the 20 Marxist rebels who are holding 74 hostages inside the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima.

This emerged yesterday after Vladimiro Montesinos. Peru's intelligence chief and right-hand man to President Fujimori. held talks with imprisoned leaders of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA).

It appears that the Government sees the only chance of a negotiated settlement to the 22-day siege in talks with the leaders. It is offering safe passage to the hostage-takers o any country that will have them - possibly Cuba - in exchange for the release of the

Señor Montesinos, who is rarely seen or heard in public, the intelligence services and the military. President Fujimori admits that he rarely takes major decisions without

ing to the MRTA leadership in prison to negotiate safe passage for the terrorists who are inside the Japanese Ambassador's residence holding hostages." said an intelligence source.

Nestor Cerpa. 44, the veteran guerrilla who is commanding the 20 heavily-armed refiels holding the hostages, [s the only top leader not behind

His army of young rebels, including two teenage girls, are possibly all that is left of the group. Their assault on the Japanese Ambassador's home seems a last-ditch attempt to free some of his friends and his girlfriend, who is among the jailed rebels.

Peruvian military manders led by General Nicolas Hermoza are pushing for a military solution to the siege. But the Government is still seeking a peaceful way out, under pressure from the

#### the period of L'Express cited a court re-Britain accused Primary of the State of the Sta of negligence in 'mad cow' crisis

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

Total page 📚 BRITISH handling of the BSE drafted by Manuel Medina, a epidemic is a long tale of Spanish Socialist MEP, are to negligence and attempts to be endorsed by the 19-member of the Engagement Comblackmail the European Comshops division according to an inmission, according to a inmissio

with bad faith in its management of the disease since 1988. The cross-party committee, which has been bearing evi-The letter dence from British and European Union officials since last autumn, also accuses the Brussels Commission of failing in its duty by accepting the. British line, playing dewn the gravity of the epidemic and placing the farm trade above public health. Protestershi

The findings of the inquiry. which is the first by the parliament using powers it received under the Maastricht treaty, were dismissed by British officials as widely expecta manufactor ed. The inquiry has no power indings are prompting anger

around the Continent. Le Soir of Brussels said the report had confirmed the incredible British lack of fair play" over the "mad cow" affair. Bad publicity over the inquiry's findings will not help Britain's drive in the coming

weeks to win a partial lifting of the beef export embargo from herds certified to be BSE-free. The inquiry's conclusions,

committee in Strasbourg after an appearance by Jacques Santer, the Commission President, next week. The report, which may be revised before its release, stops short of recommending a no-confidence vote in the Commission. However, a minority of mem-bers, led by Jose Happart, a Belgian MEP, is calling for such a move.

A list of 13 alleged British failings includes the attempt to win an end to the embergo by blocking EU business last spring. That amounted to "an abuse of its rights and black-mailing of the Community institutions by the UK". Britain had exerted pressure on the Commission over BSE for the past six years, refusing to allow veterinary inspections in the early 1990s and using British officials and scientists to swing decisions in London's favour, it said.

Since the EU's scientific committee advising on BSE had been dominated by, and usually chaired by, Britons, "it is logical to have doubts about their powers of arbitration and capacity to be impartial," Señor Medina's report said. The big rise in the export of

British animal-based feed after the national ban amount ed to "a failure to comply with the principle of co-operation that must exist between all member states", it said. Britain had also refused to listen to scientists who judged the pidemic to be more serious than officially acknowledged.

The committee was scathing about British officials who appeared before it, including Sir Keith Meldrum, the Chief Veterinary Officer, and it delored the refusal of Douglas logg, the Agriculture Minister, to give evidence. The Commission's consistent policy of playing down the consequences of the epidemic "could even be interpreted at certain times as a policy of disinformation, it said.

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## Israel tension high as bombs injure 13

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM ARAB-Israeli tension in have been intended as retalia-

creased dangerously last night after at least two explosions rocked a southern district of Tel Aviv, injuring 13 people and raising fears of a new Palestinian terrorist campaign

Although there was no immediate confirmation of the cause of the explosions, Avigdor Kahalani, the Interior Arab terrorism was a possible right-wing Israeli Govern-cause. He also said no motive ment has denied the charges. had been ruled out and it was possible that the blasts were caused by criminals.

The bombs were in rubbish bins — one near a cinema screening sex films and the other close by in an area largely inhabited by immiint workers and known for its high levels of prostitution. The attack came as talks designed to bring about an Israeli troop withdrawal from the West Bank town of Hebron appeared to be stalled.

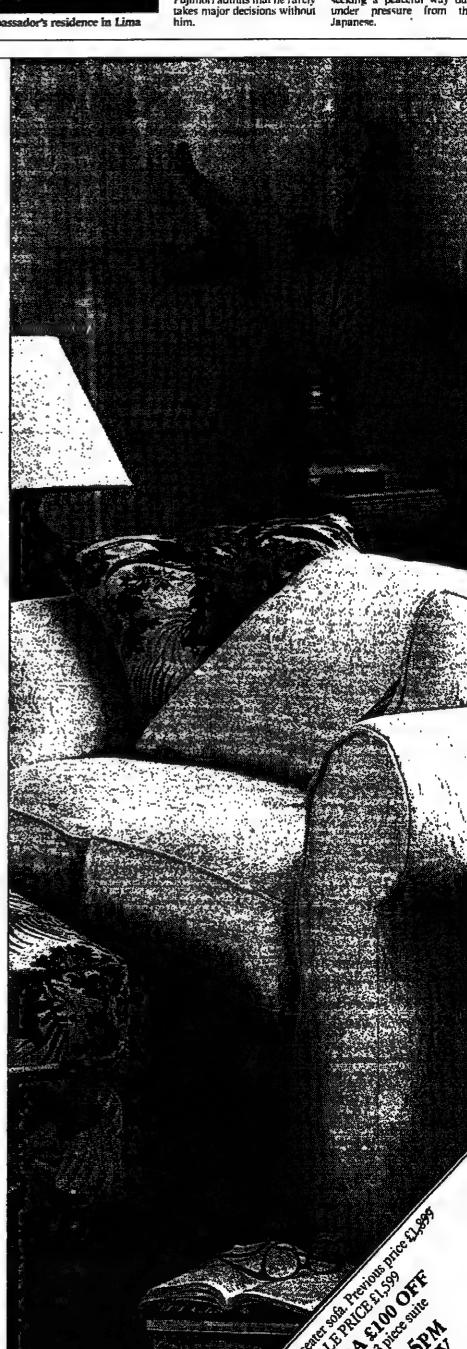
The blasts caused panic in ments for this kind of situa-the streets and caused immention, for if we do not, terrorism diate concern that they may

tion for last week's attempted massacre of Palestinians in the market area of Hebron. The attack by an off-duty Israeli soldier injured six

also been accused by Syria of being behind a huge bus bomb attack in Damascus last Security Minister, said that dead and 40 wounded. The As the violence flared again

and in the wake of the Syrian accusations, a leading member of Israel's ruling Likud Party called for Israel to attack Syrian targets in Lebanon. The demand from Uzi Landau came after attacks on Wednesday in occupied southern Leb-anon in which one Israeli soldier was killed and eight

were wounded. Mr Landau said: "A price must be exacted from the Syrian and Lebanese Govern-



LEE YOUNG-HO / REUTER

## **US Nazis** in the spotlight

THE suspected leader of a neo-Nazi terrorist cell appeared in an Ohio courtroom yesterday on charges that promise to lift the lid on the frightening under-world of America's extreme Right

Peter Langan, 38, has been accused of committing a string of bank robberies throughout the Midwest to raise funds for the Aryan Republican Army, a white supremacist group dedicated to the overthrow of the American Government and the death of all Jews.

The bank robberies ranged from lowa to Wisconsin. and Kentucky to Nebraska - indeed, with 22 heists to their name, the group was credited with more banks than Jesse

The robbers zipped in and out of banks within five minutes and would leave inert smoke grenades and pipe bombs as calling cards.

In one December robbery in Cleveland, Ohio, one suspect dressed as Santa Claus shouted "Ho, ho. ho" to customers and left a bomb tucked in a Santa hat However, the ed as a matter of high priority after the FBI discovered the political message behind the group.

Although investigators have yet to prove any link to the Oklahoma bombing, this week's trial in Columbus is certain to rekindle fears about racist hate groups.

## Police swoop for strike leaders in South Korea

By David Watts and Our Foreign Staff

SOUTH KOREAN police raided the headquarters of striking trade unionists last night and were poised for a controversial attempt to re-move other union leaders from Myongdong Cathedral

The authorities are trying to forestall what is billed as the country's biggest national strike - prompted by a new labour law aimed at making industry more competitive against a background of rising costs and labour inflexibility. State prosecutors issued

warrants for seven leaders of the militant Korean Confederation of Trade Unions to appear in court today. Kwon Young-kil, the confederation president, and his lieutenants huddled in a plastic tent in the cathedral grounds, guarded by car workers with iron bars. and said they would refuse to comply with the order.

"If they don't appear tomorrow morning we will have to

send a large number of police officers to execute the warrants," a prosecution official said yesterday. Any attempt to storm the cathedral grounds would almost certainly lead to fierce clashes, reigniting strikes that began to fizzle out yesterday as workers streamed back to shipyards and car plants in response to

government threats. Earlier, a global trade union group, the international Con-Unions, appealed to the international Labour Organisation to intervene immediately to prevent the seven's arrest. On Wednesday the minis-

ters of interior, justice and labour threatened "stern measures" against strikes that have been declared illegal. Earlier President Kim Young-Sam had ordered the Government to lay off 10,000 public servants. "The Government should set an example by cutting one trillion won \$1.2 billion) from the public-sector budget and 10,000 public servants to more efficiently pur-sue a national task, the President told cabinet ministers at a new year meeting.
The ruling New Korea Party

forced the new law through

parliament on December 26 in the absence of the opposition

— and triggered the national
unrest. Strikes have crippled key industries including car manufacturers and shipyards for 15 days, costing the country, about \$2.08 billion in lost production. Trade unionists say the law tayours management, making it easier and less costly to lay off workers or

A government spokesman said the civil service layoff would affect I per cent of personnel in government organis-ations, but no timetable has been fixed. "The layoff will target mainly the technicalservice sector such as railways



South Korean police arrest a wounded striker during clashes in the Myongdong district of Seoul yesterday

Yesterday thousands of workers turned central Seoul into a rubble-strewn battleground as they clashed with riot police, sending terrified shoppers racing for cover.

The Federation of Korean

1.2 million members, said a two-day strike would begin on Tuesday to force the Government to dump the labour law. Power, port and railway workers were urged to go on partial strike and all others to join a full stoppage. "The federation

calls on all its members to join the largest strike ever, led especially by the public sector," said Park In-sang, federation president. Buses and tubes would stop and hospitals, banks, hotels, taxis and state industries, including the

tobacco monopoly, would be 190,000 workers were an

The unions have claimed strike, but that number inciuded people on work-to-

## Russian jitters return as President battles with pneumonia

AND ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

A SENSE of dėjā vu descended on Moscow yesterday as President Yeltsin struggled to regain his health in hospital, triggering a fresh succession battle and doubts over who was running the country.

Only two weeks after the Russian leader, describing himself as flighting fit", promised to start 1997 with vigorous leadership, his new year's resolution was in tatters as he fought off pneumonia in the Central

Clinical Hospital, which has be-come his second home. After an absence of most of the second half of last year because of heart bypass surgery, his new ailment caused a familiar and disturbing sequence of events. Meetings planned for the coming two weeks were put on hold, the normally bullish Russian stock market became jittery and Mr Yeltsin's opponents increased their calls for his removal.

General Aleksandr Lebed, the dismissed former security chief with presidential ambitions, was the first to exploit the President's latest disappearance from office, saying that Russia was "rudderless".

"The President is badly ill," he said. "It is a difficult age, he has had a difficult operation, a not entirely healthy way of life for the past 40 years. It does not leave much hope. "[Yeltsin] should tender his resig-

nation. The President is in hospital. the Prime Minister is on holiday and the people have not been paid.

Someone has to rule."

Doctors said yesterday that the President was being treated with antibiotics and described his condition as satisfactory. Mr Yeltsin, 65,

to bed since Monday at his country residence, was admitted to hospital

Renat Akchurin, the cardiac surgeon who led Mr Yeltsin's operating team in November, said yesterday that there was no link between the President's condition and his heart problems. The post-operative period finished one month ago, so it makes no sense to connect anything.

with the operation," he said. Mr Akchurin said Mr Yeltsin was

who was suffering from a heavy, his hospital bed. A Kremlin state-cold or ilu which had confined him ment said his temperature had returned to normal and he had held a 15-minute telephone conversation with Viktor Chernomyrdin, the

> planned yesterday for a holiday outside the capital. It said the two men would maintain regular Aleksandr Shokhin, the deputy speaker at the State Duma and

Prime Minister, who left Moscow as

leader of the pro-government Our Flome is Russia faction, said it would take Mr Yeltsin considerably

did not expect the President to leave hospital for at least two weeks.

About 64,000 Muscovites have been treated for influenza and other respiratory infections since the beginning of the month. Natalya Sukhinina, a spokeswoman for the Moscow Epidemiological Department, said the numbers were approximately consistent with previous years and did not amount to an epidemic. She said the flu had spread from the Far East, reaching Moscow a little later than usual this

## Hidden risks for ailing Yeltsin

POLITICAL expediency rather than a reasoned medical approach may explain the optimism of President Yelt-sin's doctors and colleagues about his jung complications.

Mr Yeltsin has had a cold,

and he now has, as reported, signs of congestion at the bases of his lungs. This might well be as a result of secondary infection in the lungs after cold, a true pneur but if it was it is surprising that he has no temperature People older than Mr Yeltsin, who is only 65, can have an acute pneumonia without a temperature, or one which is only slightly raised, but it would be thought that Mr Yeltsin is still sufficiently young to have a normal

physical response to infection. The alternative explanation is that even the physical stress of a cold has thrown him into



no longer strong enough to maintain circulation and so prevent the lungs from be-coming congested. Symptoms of early congestive cardiac failure are similar to those of basal pneumonia.

Although he has made a good enough recovery from his heart surgery, statistics show that patients remain at

great risk for at least a year after a coronary thrombosis.

If Mr Yeltsin does have pneumonia, this too could place a burden on his cardio-

and a multiple bypass is aiready under duress. Last week's pictures of Mr Yeltsin with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, showed little improvement on his condition compared to those taken eight weeks ago. Mr Yeltain's expression was still blank and slow to register emotion, he has developed an almost Parkinsonian mask. When he walks he swings his right arm more than his left. another sign of Pazkinson-

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



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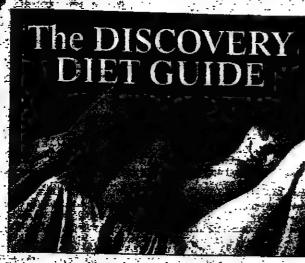
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## The healing power of plants



Homoeopathy matches cures to the lifestyle and personality of the patient, and in some cases it comes close to therapy. Grace Bradberry reports

mid-twenties, and working as a psychiatric social worker. she found herself suffering.

homoeopath: For an hour, they discussed her work, her personality, her emotional family and medical history.

Soon after, she found herself running counselling groups for people suffering from arxieties and phobias. She was

fully trained for the work, and also had a degree in psyhology, but prohe introduced

edies (many of vhich can be used for emotional complaints) and began She embarked on a fouryear training course at the

the College of Homoecoathy. Nine years later, at the age of 37, she has clinics in London the Life Centre in Notting Hill. Many of those she sees come to her with problems that have a dietary connection - indi-

more seriously, bulimia and anorexia. Howard is not a mutritionist. that a homocopathic remedy therapy. If a woman came to 1'd also ask about any trau-can actually alter the way the mewith period pains, I might mas. Perhaps their parents

gestion, water retention, and,

Prescribed correctly, it can help the body to assimilate

can make it so difficult to eat the things we know we should.

Most people now know that homoeopathy is based on the theory of treating like with like. The name comes from the believe an illness that might be caused by a large dose of a

'A capsule als, metals and contains tracts are repeateda good solution of alcohol balance of nutrients lets or granules. But for holistic they need'

DIY enthusiasts.

appear ineffectual and imprecise. Several remedies are often suggested for a single problem, followed by acceeds also completed postgraduate: problem, followed by screeds work to become a Member of on who should take what. Far more, pechaps, than other forms of complementary medicine, homoeopathy rakes acwoman suffering from premenstrual tension might be off-hand to her parter and generally raity. Another could be weepy and clingy. A fromocopath would give a different treatment to each.

in fact, a session with the ho-



want to go back to the time when her periods started, and go through the whole medical and emotional history," says Howard, "Then Ito want to know about the family history - did their mothers, grandmothers have these problems?

divorced, or they were sent to boarding school. Sometimes when you construct a time-line It becomes clear that a medical problem coincided with an emotional one, and I might prescribe a remedy for grief." So homoeopathy's individualised approach, matching the cure to the lifestyle and personality of the patient, accords with the current theory that dietary needs vary from person to person.

It is possible to treat oneself for a few trivial complaints, but for anything with deeper causes (particularly hormonal) self-prescription would be at best ineffectual. "I wouldn't recommend anyone to attempt a detoxification programme on their own," says Howard. In some cases it can give you flu-like symptoms, so you do need supervision. If someone were spring-cleaning their system, I might give them nux vomics or sulphur to encourage the elimination process."

That many of us want to know, of course, is whether homoeopathy can help us to lose weight. "I would never say I'd help women to slim. Besides, lots of women go on diets when they don't need to. But if someone has a genuine weight problem, then I would try to help with the underlying causes. Let's face it, most people know the basic dietary rules, but they

One of her favourite nutritional supplements is the unappetisingly named bluegreen algae. "A capsule will contain a good balance of matrients they need, so they don't have to keep focusing on food, while homoeopathic remedies can help with anxieties and depressions." Other remedies can help with the anxieties and depressions that can lead to bingeing or loss of

larly coffee and wine. Often

suffers nausea or heartburn

## Stay healthy for your baby

baby requires certain salts. It gets these at the expense of the mother. This homoeographic programme will help to make good any salt deficiencies in the mother, and will assist the developing baby in meeting

its salt requirement.

Calc Fluor (calcium fluoride) helps to ensure strong bone development and elasticity of connective tissue, helping the mother to avoid stretch marks. It should be taken in tablet form twice a day between the second and minth month of pregnancy.

Mag Phos (magnesium, phosphate) is useful for combating hearthurn and ensuring good nerve development in the baby. It should be taken between the second and the seventh month and taken in tablet form twice a day. Ferr Phos (ferrous phos

good blood oxygenation and should be taken from the second month of the pregnancy onwards. : Natrum mur (sodium chloride) should be taken between

the third and eighth month of the pregnancy and is good for helping to control liquid balance, thus helping to prevent swollen ankles.

Silica, which should be taken between the fourth and and nine month, is generally good for ensuring strong bones and teeth and for good all-round health.

LYNNE HOWARD recom-

mends three remedies for

premenstrual tension, ac-

cording to personality and

Sepia: symptoms include the

ence to loved ones and a

tendency to be sarcastic. She

has back pains and feels cold

desire to be alone, indiffer-

physical symptons

much of the time.



The developing foetus absorbs salts from its mother

delivery. To make raspberryleaf rea, add three teaspoons three cups or of raspberry leaves to one pint from 36 weeks.

In addition, raspberry-leaf of boiling water. This can be tea or raspberry-leaf tablets can be taken daily from the fourth month. This will help one cup or three tablets from to strengthen the uterus for 20 weeks, two cups or six tablets from 28 weeks and three cups or nine tablets

## How to cope

air, an aversion to heat, fats and rich foods, but no thirst. Natrum mur. She has a Howard also offers reme-Pulsatilla: the woman be tendency to feel rejected, yet comes affectionate, valuera- at the same time wants to be

in the morning. Sulphur: an ideas person who tends to philosophise, connecting one thing with another, and surrounding herself with mess. Craves

dies for indigestion: Nux vomica: the classic ble and weepy. She feels alone She also dwells on high-flyer — independent, being haughty or by boast-abandoned and behaves bad things that have hap desperate to succeed, unable ing. Has wind. Tends to relax. Tends to feel cold, avoid taking on new things, please circyone around her. dionships. Craves salt, feels craves stimulants, particular craves sweets and hot foods.

sweets and spicy food and often becomes weak from

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There is a desire for fresh warm and experiences a strong thirst for cold drinks.

hunger around llam. Lycopodium lacks confidence. Compensates by

Competition for the T. S. Eliot award is stiff, but Alice Oswald has been tipped as the romantic outsider who could carry it off

Alice Oswald started writing poetry when she was eight years old. She still has her first tiny collection

# A garden path to poetry's prize list

THE

VALERIE GROVE

INTERVIEW

band Peter are like the Romantics, Both aged 30, handsome, clever and impecunious, they subsist uncompromisingly on writing. Alice writes poems and Peter writes verse plays, two formidably thorny and elusive paths to fame and fortune.

Thanks to the largesse of the Dartington Trust, they live for the moment, with their new baby Joe, in a grey council-style house on the Darrington estate in Devon, "like those hermits," Alice says, "who lived in posh people's grottoes in the 18th century".

On Sunday evening Alice will be in London, reading her poems at the Almeida Theatre, along with others shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize for the best new collection of poetry this year - the £5,000 winner will be announced on Monday.

Since the shortlist also includes Seamus Heaney, John Fuller, Adrian Mitchell and Christopher Reid, she is gratifyingly (if unluckily) pitted against the best and most established names. Still, Radio 4's Kaleidoscope this week picked her out as an unusually distinctive and promising new voice with "the beginnings of real authority something like the early Ted

Hughes".
Mr Hughes is indeed her hero. He lives somewhere very close by. but she would never be so importunate as to forage, even circuitously, for an introduction.

She is a self-contained young woman; original, spare and strange, incapable of polite platitudes, not terribly fond of talking at all, and unterly committed to practising what Anne Sexton called The Black Art ("A woman who writes feels too much: Those trances and portents..."). To pursue the poet's ife, she has worked for eight years as a gardener.

I first came across her in 1994 in the fishing village of Clovelly. Devon, with its steep picturesque cobbled slope down to the sea. With donkeys for hire outside the garden gate, she was occupying a spartan tied cottage with one hideously uncomfortable armchair, a bare lightbulb, no heating, no telephone: two tiny rooms that kept the sun out and let the cold in.

By day, she toiled, for £150 a manor house, Clovelly Court. She her lap, making the usual baby

wrapped in blankets, her hands always icy. But she said she did not believe in creature comforts: "You have more energy if you are physically fighting something."

She had just won an Eric Gregory award, £6,000 presented by V.S. Naipaul, and felt tremendously grateful to Eric Gregory (a printer who left money to encourage young poets) for making such a difference to her life. But she was equally gratified to be growing a Charentais melon. She had written a poem about a melon grower, and

then tried it her-self. Most of her poems - not then published in book form - had horticultural themes. Her mother, the gardening consul-tant and writer Mary Keen, says she can identify the gardens Alice was working at when she wrote a

particular poem — The Glass House while at Lord Rothschild's house, Wadde-Buckinghamshire: Pruning in Frost at Cliveden.

This year she no longer has to weed or dig. thanks to a £10,000 cheque from the Arts Council, When Lord Gowrie presented it to her, she carried her baby, named Joseph Michaelmas as he was born

on Michaelmas Day, in her arms. in fact, things are looking alto-ether promising for the Oswalds. Peter's play Fair Ladies At A Game of Poem Cards, based on an 18thcentury Japanese puppet play, is running at the National Theatre; another is in rehearsal at the Gate. A letter commissioning him to write a new verse play for the Globe Theatre lies on the kitchen table.

They have no car or television, but they do now have heating, plus a telephone and fax, so there is communication with the modern world beyond the frozen fields outside. "It's like a university campus here." Alice says, "except there are no scientists in glasses. only creative people. And it's wonderful to have a baby, to bring a touch of real life to balance all the noises, punctuate our conversation.

with two sisters and a brother people called them the Brontes - in a series of country houses where her mother would create enchanted

They were the sort of family who gathered round the piano with the Faber Popular Reciter. "We were very close: a gang of children in an aesthetically amazing, protected environment." Alice was the silent, deep one; "infuriating sometimes" her mother says, adding that geniuses do often have a tough

time. When she slept outside, the scent of nicotiana would keep her awake. "It probably influenced my wanting to write - to create a portform garden."

When Alice was eight, after a sleepless night feeling terrified of the dark in a bedroom thought to be haunted, she has the tiny collec-

tion with the pencilled title "Poems by Alice Keen aged Syrs". They are about storms at night, fears of lightning, dustbin men, being bored, and something called the snapper-tooth beast that eats you alive. She used to hide her notebook under the hydrangeas, in case anyone should find it.

When Alice left Oxford, having read Classics at New College — she met her husband in their first term - she took to gardening as a reaction against all that abstract brain work and as a means of getting a place to live. She learnt then that "gardens are not made by crying, 'Oh! how beautiful,' and sitting in the shade."

At Wisley, the Royal Horticultural Society headquarters, she learnt the skills of propagation and how to prune an apple tree by imagining a gobiet shape. "I loved the physical, energetic side of gardening. It changed my whole way of looking at the world. When I got to Wisley just after the gales of January 1990, I was sawing up a birch tree and noticed how catkins are male and magined the little birch weddings on the end of the twigs. I

you impose, but emanates from the subject. I still wrote love sonnets, but I realised there was no point in writing about the natural world in a formal and orderly way."

She served an apprenticeship with the National Trust at Cliveden. Clipping box hedges all day meant floating beyond the threshold of boredom. I like the detail of gardens. I see them not as pretty places, but as an extraordinary collection of life-forms. I was a gardener to be able to write, rather than to be able to garden."

Her first book of poems

shortlisted for the Whitbread Prize too - came out last March: entitled The Thing in the Gap-stone Stile, a reference to the gap in drystone walls, to make a foothold for climbing, "like a gap-toothed smile. It's the sensation of being between two places, a magical moment: that kind of space is what I try to create in my poems." I recommend The Three Wise Men of Gotnam who Set Out to Catch the Moon in a Net, a long dramatic poem written while working by the Cornish sea. Last year found her at the

Cheisea Physic Garden, until pregnancy intervened: "We thought of going to live in the trees at Newbury, but suddenly realised that it might not be a good idea to be pregnant up a tree." Instead she wrote, appropriately, a poem about

he baby was born after a long labour soothed by a birth pool. "We had decided to cope entirely on our own, with no help from mothers or sisters. We thought it would all come naturally. But it didn't we couldn't understand why he screamed, and I soon cracked.

"I had to go back into hospital, my blood pressure was so high, and Peter had to be at the National for rehearsals; so I went to stay with my mother and learnt about baby care, on long walks through frozen woods, with the baby in a sling of which my mother

She also had her Rapunzel mane of hair cut off. "It's the kind of thing women do when they have a baby. I wanted to look uncompromising and furious."

"Sleepless poets painful vigils keep," as Pope said, and her next collection will perhaps reflect how a brief interstices of time.



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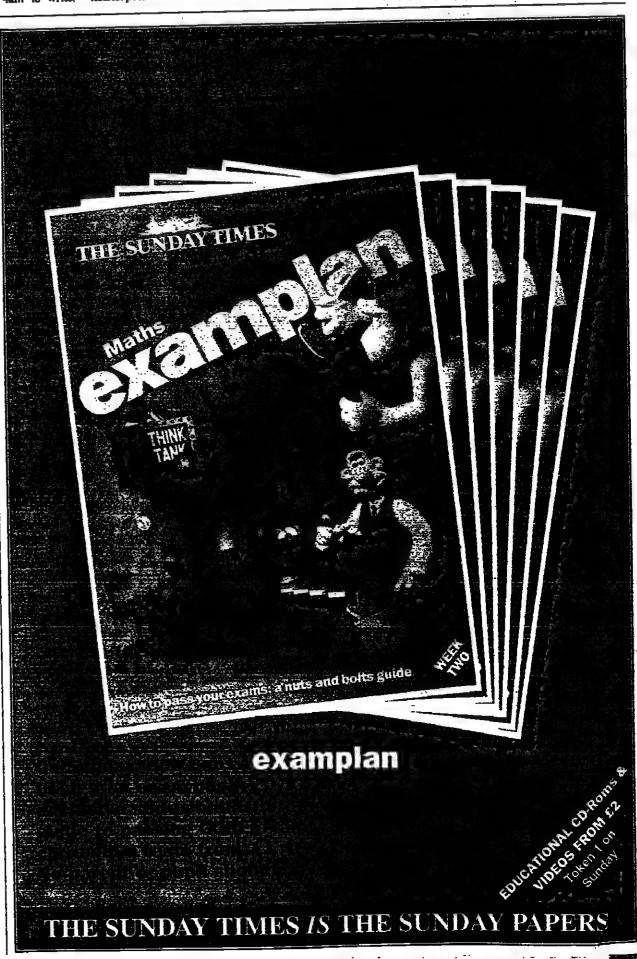
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# Roger Boyes profiles Ernst Jünger; plus an extract from Thomas Nevin's new diography of Miles Ist Witness to the moment of death Jünger describes how he was ordered to oversee the execution of a deserter by firing squad in Paris Jünger describes how he was ordered to oversee the execution of a deserter by firing squad in Paris Thomas Nevin's new diography of the second of th



As old as the century, Ernst Jünger is one of its most remarkable writers

igh on a shelf in Ernst Jünger's orderly house sits the steel helmet that saved him from a warrior's death and allowed himto live to the age of 101. Helmut Kohl admired it and so too did François Mitterrand when they visited the still-sharp writer who is regarded as one of the most controversial liter-

ary figures of the century.

Why should two modern statesmen pay homage to a man depicted as the spiritual founder of fascism; a militarist who coolly analyses the shadings of blood squirting from a dying soldier?

Baudelaire believed that only three men were worthy of respect: the priest, the warrior and the poet. To know, to kill, to create. Junger embodies all three qualities - and one might even say that only through killing did he come to his knowledge, his moral cer-tainties and his laconic poetic style. The battlefield bound Junger to Mitterrand and Kohl, as did a vision of Europe crafted as an act of intellectual resistance during the Second World War.

Mitterrand, in his final speech abroad, recalled his admiration for the husban qualities of German soldiers. Rohl, too young to fight, remembers war as a time of separation from his parents, the death of his brother, of hunger and a battered home, town. Kohl's heroes are the post-war rebuilders, not lunger's men in uniform. But. he can find common ground with a national conservative, philosopher and patriot who kept his distance from the Nazis (not far enough, say the critics).

Junger's real comemporary fascination for these two statesmen was a long essay. entitled The Peace, written in 1941 and updated with the knowledge of German atrocities in the spring of 1944. Its



Jackboots in Paris: Ernst Jünger hoped that the French would grow to love their German occupiers

subtitle was "A Word to the to Erwin Rommel and other Youth of Europe" and it was a senior officers close to the July remarkable attempt to see beyond a lost war into a new, remodelled Europe.

Hitler had failed to understand that Europe could not be unified by force. Jünger had hoped that the French could come to love their German occupiers. That hope had been dashed. Now, he argued, it was time for economic, technological and political unity in Europe. The essay was shown

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1944 plot against Hitler. They liked the text and were at ease with the idea that a unified Europe could be governed only by authoritarian rule.
That was the closest Jünger came to an act of resistance to

> read the essay in 1944 died soon afterwards at the end of a Nazi executioner's rope. Junger, perhaps because of his strange, almost personal rela-tionship with Hitler, was not put on trial. His low level of resistance set against his physical courage and his clearsighted perception of Nazi weakness has confused critics.

especially those on the Left.

The biographical transitions seem too jagged — from a First World War lieutenant, 13 times wounded, to a conservative polemicist who refused to enter parliament on a Nazi ticket or to join the Nazidominated Poetry Academy; from polemicist to cultured Wehrmacht officer in occupied France

and, after the war,

the author of an extraordinary range of work including a book about drugs and even a detective novel. Yet the passages are not unusual for a German intellectual; the oddity is in his survival.

Jünger was a tearaway teenager. At 16 he ran away to France, signed up for the Foreign Legion and was post-ed to North Africa. His father bought him out, but only after his son had learnt to shoot and march. That put him in good stead for the 1914-18 War. He was sent to the front and was immediately seized with excitement. "The overpowering wish to kill winged my steps. Fury squeezed bitter tears from me."

his intoxication, this animal urge, sat alongside a gentle-manly code of conduct. All of his war books, but in particular Storm of Steel, pay respect to the English. A wounded English soldier flashes a family photograph in a last desperate act of defence and Jünger decides not to kill. The descriptions of the war are powerful At the Somme the dead "dissolved into a greenish fishmeat that glowed at night through their can uniforms. When stepped upon, left phosphorous

tracks..." Jünger is an entomologist. His house is a small museum of some 40,000 skewered beetles, each one precisely classified. The same skills are brought to bear in describing the misery of both wars. But in his First World War memoirs there was an intensi-Hitler. Many of those who ty, missing from his later work. It was this and his commitment to the intrinsic value of combat that made

> the inter-war years. The Nazis courted Jünger but they could not engage him. The mediocrity of Goebbels and Goering offended Junger's aristocratic sensibilities. In The Worker, published in 1932, he set out a totalitarian future in which social control was exercised by

The Nazis

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those who could manipulate the levers of technological change. His concern in this and other works was concentrated more on Stalin and Bolshevism than on Hitler and Nazism Critics say this dis tancing from National Socialism was a moral deser tion, that Jünger

should have spo ken out on the worsening anti-Semitic climate. The beneficiary of a private income, Jünger was sheltered from some of the problems experienced by his colleagues - the bullying and the persecution of Jews.

Jünger fans point, in his defence, to the 1939 work On The Marble Cliffs, which paints a grim metaphor of totalitarian rule, adding a bit of Stalin and a bit of Goering (although pot Hitler) to his portrayal of a sinister ruler known as the Forest Ranger. The opening line, with echoes of Dante, gives a hint of the man behind the cold mask of a spectator at the feast of tyrants. "All of you know the wild grief that seizes us in the remembrance of happy

As Jünger approaches his 102nd birthday, how much "wild grief" still seethes below the surface? He has lost a wife, a son in battle and a son to suicide; to live so long is to outlive not only contemporaries but also their grandchildren. Prophecies come true or fall hopelessly by the wayside. All that is left is a kind of internal ordering to fend off the chaos. As Nabokov sought solace in butterflies, so Jünger now prefers the company of beetles to human beings.

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unger's works, especially the greatest of them, the chronicles of two wars, will endure. His place in German literary history is secure. That he is, in the terms of current fashion. the politically incorrect writer par excellence will not eventually count for much. His writing does us the inestimable service of all truly worthy literature it breaches our puny, comfortable assumptions about the world, forcing us to see differently and confounding what we want reality to be. Junger perceives chaos and order in equipoise, but neither of his sightings reassures us order offers us no personal redemption; and chaos is the unsettling constant in life itself. It is the void we fill with war no less than with

Having served as a highly decorated storm troop officer in the First World War, at the onset of the Second World War, aged 44, he found himself in uniform again. 'He has

War meant an end to writing at leisure, but he could go on with his diary. "There will be no lack of spectacle," he

Jünger's Paris notebooks date from the spring of 1941. He served on the staff of the military governor of the city, General Karl Heinrich Stulpnagel, and lived at the Hotel Raphael on the Avenue des

On May 29, 1941, only a few weeks after his appointment to the staff, Jünger noted: "Added to the flood of unpleasant things weighing on me, it happens I have been ordered to oversee the execution of a soldier condemned to death for desertion. At first I intended to report sick but that seemed a cheap way out. I also thought: perhaps it's better that you are there rather than someone else." A "higher curiosity" seized him. In the previous war he had not observed a deserter shot, nor anyone prepared for the precise moment of death. Here was a situation "daily threatening each of us, shadowing our

The condemned man had deserted the army shortly after the surrender, and hid out with a French mistress in Paris. When

he abused her, she turned him in. Jünger arrives at the execution site (probably la Vallée-aux-Loups) towards dawn. On catching sight of the prisoner, he is overcome with a feeling of oppression, as though breathing itself has become difficult. The man's face has features attractive to women. While his death sentence is read, he seems to attend with keen awareness, "yet I have the Impression the text is passing him by. His

ing, large, as though the body were hanging on to them. His whole mouth moves as though he were spelling. His glance falls on me and tarries a second over my face with a penetrating, searching tension. I note that the excitement confers upon him the look of something intricate, blooming, indeed childlike."

The minute's reading seems interminable. The blindfolded man kisses a small silver cross, and a doctor places a piece of red cardboard over the heart.

"I would like to glance past but force myself to look straight on and seize the moment when, with the salvo fire, dark little holes appear in the cardboard as though dewdrops had fallen on it. The man shot is still standing by the tree; his features express a dreadful surprise. I see his mouth opening and closing as though

it wanted to shape vowels and still, with great effort, to ex-press something. The situation is perplexing, and again the time stretches out. It even seems the man has become dangerous. Finally his knees

The physician explains that the dying man's gestures were only reflexes. Jünger is not persuaded. "He hasn't seen what became evident to me in a ghastly way." Taken superficially, this

passage ratifies a central objection to Jünger, that he achieves aesthetic concentration at the cost of moral sensitivity, as though he had followed to the letter John Ruskin's advice for "the great painter": "Always cool yourself as you either look on, or take any necessary part in the play. Cool, and strong-willed - moveless in observant soul Does a man die at your feet - your business is not to help him, but to note the colour of his lips . . .

The rationale, that he might observe the very moment of death's stroke, seems a morbid rather than a "higher" curiosity.

It is his narrative that is "higher": higher than any film record could be, because he is humanly susceptible, yet it escapes the merely clinical estimate which the physician provides at the close. This narrative hardly fits the charge that Jünger's aesthedicism is morally insensitive.

To say that he shows no compassion does not prove he does not feel it, or is incapable of it. More important, his narrative gives the reader grounds for pity and terror.

● Extracted from Ernst Jünger and Germany by Thomas Nevin (Constable £20)



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II. SI NDAY PAPE

#### Philip Howard



#### 🖿 We shouldn't wear an eye-patch when looking at our piratical ancestors

et us have pirates about us that are black. Their hearts should be black. and their hands bloody. So Disneyland's decision to replace the old-fashioned pirates in its theme park with more politicaly correct buccaneers is dumb. It is also deplorable. When Disney's pirate-ride reopens, instead of chasing women, its pretend pirates will bunch them with flowers and woo them with fruit. The foolish fringe of the feminist lobby is gratified. But as scholars have pointed out, because of the scarcity of females, pirates (like sailors) were mostly homosexual and did not chase women except to rob, kill and possibly ear them. And as the common enemies of mankind, pirates were outlaws operating outside the margins of society. They were negative advertisements

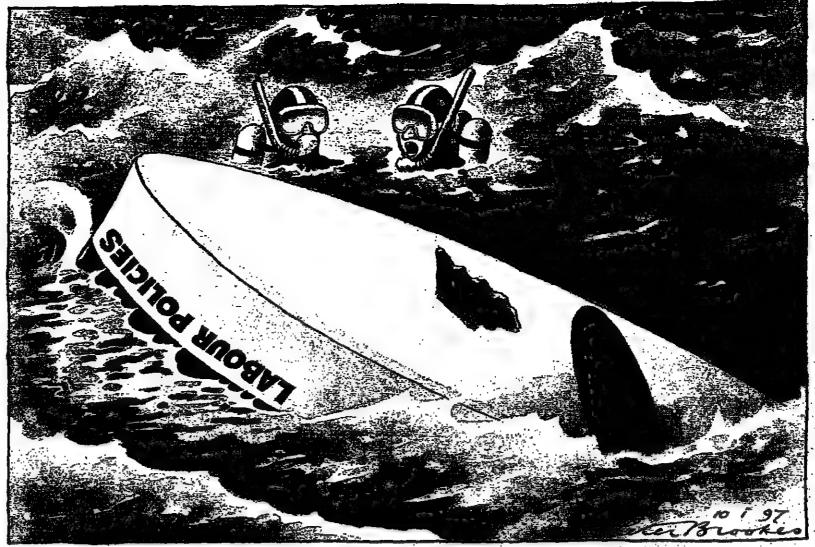
As an old, civilised and maritime society. Britain played its part in putting down the pirates of the Levant and the Barbary Coast. But the British have always been ambivulent about the sea savages. For under our mongrel skin we are a piratical race. After the Romans, the three tidal waves of invaders who made Britain were pirates: Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Normans (just Vikings come to roost). Drake and the seamen who beat the Armada and ruled the waves for the merchant venturers were pirates, though Elizabethan PR called them privateers.

And once the north-western quarter of the world was freed from pirates, we romanticised the brutes. Robinson Crusoe introduced the genre of desert island romance. Byron glamorised corsairs and such dangerous loners. Treasure Island made pirates swash their buckles. But blind Pew tap-tapping down the street to deliver the black spot is still terrifying. That book is also politically insensitive to the monopodal and monocular. But then the first novel was equally deformist about Polyphemus, the original man-eating, one-eyed pirate. It is a grief that Treasure Island is not available for shrieks and bangs in the London theatre this season.

Hollywood carried on this charming of the pirate through Douglas Fairbanks, Errol Flynn, Victor Mature, and (more sub-textually) Robert Newton, with eye-rolling villainy and his shin strapped up behind his thigh. Peter Pan at Ayr this winter has been emasculated by the need to censor Wendy's advice to her Lost Boys to die like "English" gentlemen, and all Captain Hook's references to his Etonian training for piracy. But the production is made more realistic by the revelation that the actor playing Smee (the cuddiv pirate) is male pop star).

The British are intensely law-abiding and respectable. But our piratical roots show in our long-distance yachtsmen, seeking the freedom of the seas, and their gallant rescuers, when the yachtsmen inevitably sink. The little boats that sailed to Dunkirk represented our privateering heritage. But although we secretly admire the wild freedom of the pirate, we know that he is an enemy of civil society. We may make fun of him to sing "It is. it is a glorious thing / To be a Pirate King"; but the civilised side of our split nature recognises that the dirtiest land thug is a Christian gentleman compared to a real pirate. The pirate is as cruel as a seasnake and as deep as Davy Jones's Locker. Jolly-Rogering and yo-ho-hoing do well enough to give small boys a pleasurable frisson, but the modern descendants of the pirate are hijackers and terrorists. Even Disney, which turns everything cute, even Shere Khan drawled by George Sanders. should not turn pirates into gentlemen. The only civilised treatment for pirates is to stamp on their fingers as they try to board and so set them free to "walk home". Pirates never made anyone walk the plank. It would have been too expensive and needed greater organisation than the drunken brutes had.

They chucked their victims overhoard. J. Caesar knew how to treat pirates. As a young politician, he was captured by pirates and held for ransom for 40 days while the deal was negotiated. He joked with his Jocosos Rogeres that he would come back and crucify them. They laughed a lot. But when he was freed, the first thing Caesar did was raise a fleet and crucify his pirates to a man. For once the taxi-driver is right. That is the only language the sods understand.



"THERE'S THIS FAINT KNOCKING SOUND, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THERE'S ANYTHING THERE.

## New plays are the thing

irst question. Why is the London theatre dying on its one remaining leg? Answer: you are an idiot, because the London theatre has never in its life before been so healthy, crammed and enjoyed. Oh, yes? (See Lloyd Webber musicals.)

Next question: When did the play called The Woman in Black open at the Fortune and how long has it been there? Next question: Why do I now go to the London theatre roughly once in six months, and why are Art and Talking Heads the only new plays for several years I shall remember, and would remember even if the three actors in the first play and the two in the second play

were not so superb? Next question: Who is Georgina Brown, who knows so much about the London theatre and make when she writes in the Mail on Sunday:

Can the West End sustain another musical? Or. by inventing the first blockbuster musical, did Andrew Lloyd Webber unwittingly create a monster whose offspring have ravaged what was once the proud home of the British play by eating up all the best theatres, the talent, the money and its ever-dwindling

Take those few words about the theatre, "its ever-dwindling audience". That dwindling audience is no mirage. and the fact that Ms Brown goes far and wide to praise the Royal Court and Pinter's most recent (and most dreadful) play is another sign. There are many more signs - 1 pick one casually from the catalogue, and Duncan Weldon, one of the greatest producers we have had pops out and says laconically, after he has put on Plunder, an old farce, he will have no change from £300,000. But Weldon groans not because of the money that is disappearing from his pockets, but for the plays that never even got into his pockets in the first place.

And that is where I come in. I have loved the theatre from boyhood, and the theatre has been second only to music itself. I have been a theatre critic five times, and survived. I have seen thousands - not hundreds - of plays, and left on tiptoe from many hundreds, well before the curtain fell. (Disgraceful, you say? You didn't see some of the worst ones.) Ignoring the classics, which are in a separate category, I ask again why do I now go to the theatre some twice a year, not 20 times as it once was and now still

Why do I go to the theatre so seldom these days? Could it be that too

few playwrights are playwrighting?

A few suggestions. The tickets are now too expensive — go in the gods. There's nowhere to park — go by bus. The streets in the centre are dangerous they aren't. You can't get a drink in the interval - shove harder. Any more excuses? There aren't any more excuses.

The terrible answer — and when I say terrible I am not exaggerating - the terrible answer is that there are no new great playwrights and hardly any of any writing, and when did we last see a new play from Shaffer? (You tell me that there is a Shaffer? Yes, he came up with a miniature after many years.)

Some say that the overbearing weight of the gigantic musicals is driving all other plays out of the business, but that cannot be the problem, even though the monsters -Cats. Phantom of the Opera. Les Misér-

ables, Miss Saigon, Sunset Boulevard and all (not to speak of Jesus Christ Superstar which started the whole business) - are all crowded

o, all crowded nightly are they? Aha and Ho, there's monsters have driven the ordinary playwrights off the stage. Wrong, surely wrong: not only are there plenty of stages to put plays on, but -and to our shame - at any time there are anything up to half a dozen theatres that are dark: the doors are shut and there are no plays to open with. Georgina Brown, who set me off on this hunt, suggests that the very presence of the mighty pillars frightens ordinary playwrights away. Is it true that, say, Cats (which has been running for 15 years, and will never close) drives out the non-musicals? Surely our playgoers are not so timid? (I have heard that when it was announced that Covent Garden was to close for two years for its greatly needed repairs, the Opera House asked

Drury Lane if it would give up Miss Saigon for that time. The answer was a very rude sound.)

Another grim clue. When I first heard of Art, I was suspicious (I had been on my guard for many years after all), even though the threesome of players - Finney, Courtenay and Stott. - make a formidable trio. But such splendid actors would not muck about: nor do they. But by the time I had of the play, half the town had been (Wyndham's is not a very large theatre). strolled up to the guichet expecting hollow laughter, but I got a choice of

places (and even got politeness). Now if the best new play for years isn't always packed when the word has gone thoroughly round, there is something amiss.

And indeed something is amiss. What is it? Put plainly, the

problem is that there is an appalling paucity of playwrights and plays. Well; yes, I agree that two plus two make four, but why aren't there any playwrights playwrighting? And to top all that, I discovered, somewhat late, that Art is a French play just Englished for the Brits. Many decades ago, one of my stints as a theatre critic called for me to take on French plays as well as British ones. I took it for nearly a year, and then downed tools: French nonclassic plays were so dreadful, so feeble. so obvious, so ghastly, so monumentally stupid, that from that day to this I have never again set foot in a French playhouse. Now do you see why I took

time to catch up with Art? But I still don't know why I cannot go to the theatre at least once a week and be rewarded by fine, bold, bright, witty, deep, powerful plays. The idiotic reply is that nobody is writing them, as if they came out of a chewing gum machine.

So I don't know. But I cannot shrug and say "sorry, nobody is writing plays these days". You must understand that a great play is not just a couple of hours of enjoyment, though it is that too. There is no country in the world more rich in plays than ours; and if that richness dies out, a great part of our lives dies with us. It is no use saying "Well, we've gos Shakespeare, what more do you want?" I want very much more, and so does

Pause for a moment to think about the novel. Up and down it goes, to be sure, but there can be no bookshop which has no novels, and why should the stage be stripped of its life? There are some feeble answers about television - some say that the box has pushed out the living stage because people cannor bother to put on their overcoats and pop down Shaftesbury Avenue or Charing Cross Road. Yes, I'do know that not everybody. would be surprised how many theatres there are in Manchester, to say nothing of Scotland. Nevertheless, the heart of theatre in this country is in the heart of London, and that is only one reason I tremble when I look down the list of West End plays.

am told that several plays are in the pipeline, and all I have to do is wait. That was what they used to say in the glory days when real new lays tumbled out of any waistcoat. But if the new world is about to but its nose through the curtain, the curtain had better not be like anything we have seenrecently. My growling is no shadow, look through the theatre page of any paper that takes the theatre seriously countless Lloyd Webber pieces, a few dozen oldies - say, The Cherry Or-chard, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, An Inspector Calls, An Ideal Husband, A Doll's House, and —so far eight years — The Woman in Black Roll up, roll up, customers, and see The Woman in

Black for the ninth time. But I am not sneering; if anything, I am weeping. You may say that an old play is better than no play, and I am on the verge of saying that it isn't. But if fewer and fewer plays turn up (and I mean plays for which it is worth getting out of an armchair), it will be not a nuisance but a great hole in the fabric of our land. We can live without the theatre, of course, but I fear that if it withers and dies, nothing will bring it back to life.

This is the last in the present series of columns. Bernard Levin will continue to write elsewhere in The Times.

## A sect fit for the starry-eyed

Michael Gove on Helmut Kohl and the Scientologists

olocaust denial is a perversion of history. Holocaust hyperbole is becoming almost as disreputable. Holocaust hyperbole is the cas exaggeration of a current injustice which ranks it with the genocide of Nazi Germany. The latest and most egregious example is an "Open Letter to Helmur Kohl" from a B-list of Hollywood names, comparing the treatment of Scientologists in Kohl's republic to the persecution of Jews in Hitler's Reich.

The Nazis' systematic deployment of all the tools of state terror, and the complicity of a people in the attempted extermination of an entire race - the culmination of centuries of prejudice and pogrom — was a crime of un-equalled barbarity. It is an insult to the suffering of its victims and the dignity of its survivors to use the memory of the Holocaust to manufacture outrage. To equate it with any abuse of power in Germany today is grotesquely inappropriate. And to compare the organised murder of the Jewish race to the difficulties faced by a "Church" of hustiers

stretches the limits of tolerance. One might have thought that even in Hollywood, the home of mangled history, muddled liberalism and gullibility, ir would be hard to find 34 holy fools prepared to put their name on a billhoard advertising their own insensitivity. Yet actors as distinguished as Dustin Hoffman and producers as powerful as Aaron Spelling have allowed their reputations to be demanded by endors-

ing the unequal equation of anti-semitism and opposition to Scientology.

It would be bad enough if those who wrote to Herr Kohl had made their maladroit intervention out of misguided sentiment, but the ruffle of dollars and the whiff of the agent's cigar can be discerned in the background. As Giles Whittell reports on our foreign pages. the links between Scientology and the signatories are not all ties of the pures

Hollywood has long been home not only to the mixed motive and the hired hand, but also to a residual anti-German feeling. Many of its finest names have known something of the real horrors of Middle-European intoler-ance Modern Germany may have its faults, as the sharneful treatment of asylum-seekers in the eastern Lander nows, but it a those is its robust recognition of the ways a determined sect can exploit the tolerance of liberal society.

- Our Home Office has recognised Scientology as a "bona fide religion" and opened the way to its application for charitable status. The Germans have seen it for what it is - in the words of a 1995 court ruling, in Cassel, Hesse - a "business organisation". But Scientology is no Sainsbury's - it is a vast exercise in self-promotion and networking which robs the voluerable of their dignity and more, peddling in return a pseudo-science that would look ludicrous in a Star Trek script. If Scientology is a Church, then Elmer Gantry is its patron saint. Its founder, the hack turned quack L. Ron Hubbard. established the sect as lucrative proofthat there are, indeed, several bornevery minute.

Campologists believe that Ron , somehow visited Venus, although how he survived the concentrated suphuric acid rain or the surface temperature of 460 degrees Celsius remains, like so much about the cult, obscure. Hubbard believed that humanbeings are receptacles for immortal forces called, with all the imagination of a man who started his career in comic books, Thetans. The Thetans, according. to a Scientology textbook, were brought to Earth by an evil lord called Xenn. Scientologists do net respond warmly when asked about his relation to the Art.

of Motorcycle Maintenance It is easy, and healthy, to laugh, but ridicule is not enough. Scientology is, if anything, more pernicious than prepos-terous. Like many cuts it offers structure, coherence and companionship for bruised souls. The quasi-induction process of "auditing" mimics some of the southing effects of psychotherapy and has proved much more addictive. Sessions are expensive and recruits who wish to persevere with auditing until they reach a state in which they are "clear" have to earn their treatment by ... pavement proselytising. They become pyramid-salesmen for salvation.

Scientology has also made money from other business involvements. not least property speculation in East Germany. Money that is handed over by converts is invested in concrete. The organisation is estimated to have made around £60 million profit in Ger-many alone last year from "education" material.

The young in ordered societies such as Germany and Japan are particularly susceptible to the call of closed cultures. as the terrifying success of Japan's Aum sect showed. Germany, where the Constitution is a model of rationalist legalism, erected to guarantee dvil-liberties in the shadow of the Holocaust. is particularly vulnerable. Liberal democracy's weakness is its willingness to extend to its enemies rights which they

will not scruple to abuse. In refusing to take Scientology at its own estimation and recognising the sordisant saviours as macksters. Germany has done democracy a service. Herr has done democracy a server.

Kohl should also be saluted for yesterday dismissing the Hollywood letter as "rubbish". His controon sense suggests
that 60 years after Weimar failed to
stand up to intimidation. German is at
lest beginning to feel at sees were likely. last beginning to feel at ease with itself.

## Whitewash

LAWYERS working on behalf of the cricketers Ian Botham and Allan Lamb are delighted by news of the paternity suit filed in California by Sita White, daughter of the late Lord White of Hull, against Imran Khan. Any smear on Imran's reputation might be useful when they resume their

battle next year. Botham and Lamb felt hard done by in the way they lost their libel action against Imran last year, and their lawyers feel that Imran's team played dirty. Their appeal has just been postponed from this October to April 1998, by which time, should Imran's ambirions go to plan, he will be safely ensconced as Pakistan's Prime Minister. But even if Imran does win office, his political position, like President Clinton's, will probably he sandbagged by unsavoury

We made a conscious decision not to bring in a smear campaign against Imran Khan Jabout Sita White's alleged love-child in the High Court," says Rhory Robertson, of Swepstone Walsh (Botham and Lamb's solicitor). However. George Carman. QC, brought up all of the old sex and drugs stories about Botham, on behalf of Imran.

"Whether I was right or wrong in giving that advice, in light of the muck that was thrown at us by Imran's legal team, will be debated until I go to the grave," says Robertson, But we may well bring this White business up in the

 Cold weather is no problem for the Prime Minister's exotic collection of fish, kept in a pond at his home in Huntingdon. The two



Sita White: allegations

policemen who guard the house receive a full list of instructions whenever the PM goes away, and have grown fond of the assorted Koi carp and goldfish, which are rupbed with suncream in hot weather. The policemen, who occupy a hut on the property, make sure the pond does not freeze solid by pouring saucepans of warm (not boiling) water onto any icy patches

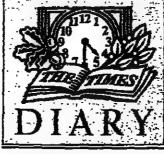
#### More More

ENGLISH HERITAGE and its chairman. Sir Jocelyn Stevens, have swung in behind Christopher Moran, the former underwriter expelled from Lloyd's, and his plans to renovate Crosby Hall in Chelsea, the 15th-century home

of Sir Thomas More. Moran has been trying to overhaul the place at a personal cost of £25 million, against the objections of certain local residents and the council.

The outcome of Moran's appeal against Kensington and Chelsea council's decision will be heard by the Secretary of State for the Environment later this month. "It is a project to which I have dedicated the rest of my life." Moran said. "Some residents say their view of the river will be spoilt, but there is an undercurrent of envy about this." Why on earth anyone should

T LOMING ! TO B



feel envious of a former Lloyd's man spending £25 million on his house beats me.

 Flying in from New York for the British premiere of her latest film, Some Mother's Son, Helen Mirren found herself delayed for two hours by Virgin. She was held up for an hour in the air and another waiting for her baggage. So much, then, for letting the airline use all that soft-focus filming of her legs in their advertisements.

#### Over here

WESTMINSTER is running thicker than a Louisiana bayou with American members of Congress at the moment, the result of some frenetic work by Sir John Kerr, the British Ambassador in Washington. Just before the November congressional elections in

America, when candidates are at their most vulnerable to a friendly invitation, Kerr picked the likely winners and suggested they come on over to Britain.

Since November, 24 senators and congressmen have visited, and another 25 are expected in the next month, to discuss subjects from agriculture to Nato and, naturally enough, transatiantic relations. There is, however, a price to pay for proving that the special relationship still exists. "It would be rude," says the Foreign Office, "if, having invited them, we did not pick up the cost of their visits."

 Monday sees the publication of Roll the Dice, the memoirs of Darius Guppy, convicted fraudster and friend of Earl Spencer, The title of the work is a sorry compromise, after the publishers dropped the early working title, which referred directly to the chaotic jewel insurance scam for which Guppy did his porridge. My Little Gem: Polished but Flawed

#### Gone ape

AFTER several torrid months in the press, here is some sunshine news about Hugh Grant. He has written a detailed 1,000-word foreword to Mission Possible, a book by Ian Guard. 19, a Cambridge undergraduate, about the plight of



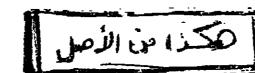
Grant, monkeying around

the African mountain gorilla. Proceeds go to the international Gorilla Conservation Programme and the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund Grant is a keen monkey man. His girlfriend, Liz Hurley, even

calls him "Monkey", because she thinks he looks like one, and their joint film production company is called Simian Films. "We must not become complacent," writes Grant. "The gorilla

represents not just a species but a whole ecosystem which also needs

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Starry ELEPHANT AMONG TIGERS

The right moment to encourage India's drive for modernisation

the Science As John Major was happy to acknowledge yesterday, the assembly of 10,000 Indian businessmen he addressed in Calcutta was probably the largest of his political career. An even larger audience was also in his sights, the million-strong Indian community in Britain whose industry, enterprise and strong sense of ethical values he praised, and whose votes British politicians are anxious to court. But it would be wrong to see Mr Major's sub-continental journey entirely through the prism of electoral politics. His enthusiasm for British ties with India is real, and is not limited to cricket.

The Prime Minister was quick to see that India's dismantling of the post-independence "licence raj" promised not only industrial freedom and economic opportunity but an easing of the country's prolonged and prickly defensiveness towards its former colonial ruler. The new Indo-British partnership agreement which he signed in 1993 has helped to double two-way trade. British investment in India has increased by 50 per cent in the same period, with the forming of more than 600 new joint ventures. Investment worth another 53 billion lies ahead.

Given that an economy of 950 million people is still only about the size of Belgium's and that the total annual foreign investment it attracts today is only about £2.4 billion. this is business on a significant scale. But Mr Major has been equally active in pressing for India's inclusion, as an increasingly important regional power, in the regular dialogue between the European Union and the "tiger" economies of Asia.

India is partly to biame for this omission; for years it seemed naturally to exclude itself through the closed nature of its economy and its preferred identity as cheerleader for . Third World confrontationists and close Asian partner of the Soviet Union. But now that the elephant is limbering up to face the world in which the tigers have long moved, Mr Major is right to press India's case for inclusion and Britain's European parmers should be prepared to concede it.

Dialogue is particularly important to

India because of its long and unrewarding adherence to a semi-autarkic, highly bureaucratic and state-dominated economy. Indians sometimes joke that the extensive macroeconomic reforms undertaken since 1991 have been pragmatic rather than ideological - because the Indian Government itself does not believe in them. The first steps were certainly forced by crisis. But Deve Gowda was a pioneering crusader for liberalisation in Karnataka before becoming Prime Minister last year; he, at least, seems

to believe in what he is doing. Although the old prejudices against private enterprise are fading and the country is much less crippled by the industrial licence system than it was, the culture of petty regulation survives. Some industrial sectors are adapting fast to a more open economy; but there is an undimmed determination among others, particularly in consumer goods, to keep the thick blanket of protection that has cosseted them against foreign competition. Against strong internal pressures of this kind, India's reformers need to be able to set the examples of success in open-market economies, and the discipline of international rules such as the World Trade Organisation supplies.

In the 50 years since independence, India has made so little of its potential that it is currently home to around 40 per cent of the world's desperately poor. It has an enormous amount to do if it is to realise the vision Mr Major offered yesterday of a country which within the next 50 years will be a nation not of "huddled masses" but of prospering producers and consumers, "a political force for the good" in Asia and a leading player in the Commonwealth and global institutions. Mr Major had the sense to talk in terms of common challenges and to acknowledge Britain's own experience of "the pain and difficulty of economic change". But this was not a message that a British Prime Minister could have risked delivering, however politely, only a few years ago. It is because India is such a different country today that his journey is timely, his

#### **TOON AND CITY**

#### Keegan would never have felt comfortable in a public company

bound up with the fortunes of its football chib. Manchester and Liverpool play host to rival teams; London has a plethora. But in grown talent is bad business. the city. No wonder, then, that the response to the resignation of Kevin Keegan as manager of the club has been one of almost

Auniversal despair. But once they have got over the initial shock, supporters of the Magpies may come to realise that Mr Keegan left at the right time. Newcastle United is due to be floated on the stock market very soon, and the club's bankers advised Mr Keegan that he had to make up his mind whether he intended to stay. Having been nearly as liberal with his resignation threats as with the chequebook of his backer, Sir John Hail, Mr Keegan had to undertake to remain for some time after the flotation. This, it seemed, he was not prepared to do.

He may well have been wise to leave on a high. The style of management he adopted at Newcastle owed more to Saudi princes than to Marks & Spencer. He preferred to buy talent, often at enormous expense, than to nurture it himself. Thus, last year, he spent more than £26 million on three players alone. Yet Newcastle has no active reserve team and hardly any youth development.

Manchester United, by contrast, has an enormous youth scheme, which could provide much of its strength in years to come. A talented young footballer in Manchester could realistically hope to play for his home team. His equivalent in Newcastle would be advised to move west. Given that the city of Newcastle has

Rarely have the loyalties of one city been so ... produced such players as Paul Gascoigne, Alan Shearer, Bryan Robson and Peter Beardsley, this disdain for nurturing home-

Newcastle, nearly everyone supports It is also a strategy that would have gone Newcastle United. The recent revival of the down badly in the City. Buying players is club's fortunes has paralleled the revival of hugely expensive. Training them is not. While any club will want to put aside some money for transfers, Newcastle has been spending a disproportionate amount.

The business of football does not lend itself easily to the stock market. A study by Deloitte & Touche has shown that, Manchester United apart, the rest of the Premiership teams lost nearly £14 million between them in 1994-95. Newcastle accounted for £8 million of that loss. Manchester United, which made a profit of £20 million, has to be seen as a special case. It is an international brand name, as famous on the streets of Addis Ababa as in Oldham.

Other clubs are likely to make profits only through repeated success at home and in Europe. Even the purchase of excellent players does not guarantee such form. They may be injured, suspended or let down by am-mates. Like a record company, football clubs try to rely on stars. Unlike a record company though, they cannot spread their risks, hoping that the profits from one successful artist will more than offset the losses from another.

So Mr Keegan might have found himself hemmed in by unacceptable constraints under extreme pressure from fans and shareholders alike to win championships but with far less transfer money at his disposal. The chances are that he would not have lasted long. Newcastle United's strip may be black and white, but this story is not as clear-cut as the club's fans may believe.

#### **HEROES OF THE DEEP**

Great British failure — with a stiff upper lip

There is no hero as beloved in Britain as he who fails nobly. An adventurer who looks death in the face and emerges with a selfdeprecating quip is the man who captures the nation's heart. Three times within the past three weeks Britons have come close to catastrophe, yet have drawn on reserves of determination and humour to survive.

Sir Ranulph Fiermes struggled on in pain until forced to abandon his trek across Antarctica. Even as the country was marvelling at the courage of the stand-in pilot aboard the Virgin Global Challenger, who climbed out at 7,000 ft to jettison a gas canister as the craft was plummeting to earth, came the electrifying news of the rescue of Tony Bullimore, who survived five days in the hull of his upturned yacht. Bobbing to the surface, he asked rescuers for a cup of tea and sparked the joy of his wife. The old dog is alive. He's bloody alive!"

Britain has lionised its failures ever since the defeat of King Arthur. Popular idols have been those who set themselves tasks. that were beyond them, but when forced to concede, did so with uncomplaining grace. Effortless failure, characterised by stoicism. understatement and a refusal to blame others, is admired almost more than effortless success. Even military defeats have

burnt themselves into the nation's admiring memory: from the Charge of the Light Brigade to Rorke's Drift and Dunkirk, the men who seized glory from adversity have been celebrated equally with the victors at Agincourt. Waterloo and the Battle of Britain. Kipling's homily about treating triumph and disaster just the same is burned on the British mind.

Not every disaster warms a Briton's heart. A feeble cricket side that whinges about its incompetence is treated with well-deserved contempt. It lacks three essential elements of the Great British Failure: grit, guts and humour. An amateur ski-jumper, however, who risks life and limb in an Olympic contest clearly beyond him demonstrates a more British kind of sportsmanship, even if Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards had "the

aerodynamic grace of a gherkin". Richard Branson is unlikely to lose his position as Britain's most admired businessman. Everyone can identify with the human fears of Mr Bullimore, grizzled, brash and tough, during his ordeal, and his relief at his rescue; few can emulate his superhuman sang froid. "Thank God," he said, on emerging from the water, a sentiment voiced by John Major in India and by all who had given him up for dead.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## 'bugging' scenario

From the Home Secretary

Sir, I should like to respond to Harold Pinter's request to me lletter. January S) to confirm or deny a scenario which he thought could happen once the provisions of the Police Bill now before Parliament are in place.
Intrusive surveillance by the police

and customs of our most serious criminals has been taking place successfully for many years. The provisions of the Police Bill are intended to put these operations on a proper statutory footing. Their primary purpose is for the covert gathering of intelligence against our most difficult and intractable criminals.

If a police officer was disturbed in the process of installing a listening device, then there would be no point in continuing the operation. In such unlikely circumstances, the officer would no doubt leave as quickly as possible and the authorisation for intrusive surveillance of the property would be cancelled. Furthermore, the Bill provides a means for the householder to make a complaint to an independent commissioner, a specific avenue for redress which is not available at

Intrusive surveillance often provides the vital intelligence or the crucial piece of the jigsaw in bringing to justice those involved in organised and serious criminal activity.

The Police Bill strikes the right balance between giving our law enforcement agencies the opportunity to use the most up-to-date technology and methods available to combat this very real threat to our society, whilst providing effective safeguards and formal independent oversight to guard against any possible abuse.

Yours sincerely MICHAEL HOWARD, The Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, SWI. January B.

From the President of the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association and others

Sir, Harold Pinter's plight is, we fear, more serious than he thinks.

When he is arrested he should answer police questions, for he has lost his right to silence (Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994).

Oh, when it comes to his trial he may find that the burden of proof has shifted on to him as a defendant (Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996). Never mind; by the time he gets to

trial the police will probably know what his defence is anyway, as the Police Bill will allow them to bug his solicitor's office and/or his barrister's chambers.

It is amazing to think all of those fundamental rights were lost with hardly a whimper from Her Majesty's Opposition lest they be thought to be soft on crime.

· Until the general election we are in a very dangerous state of constitution-al limbo where the rights of the citizen are being sacrificed by both parties on the altar of political expediency. Statesmen have reminded us that

the duty of the Opposition is to oppose. It is crucial that issues as important as those contained in the above legislation should be fully debated in Parliament. Since this seems unlikely, it must be the duty of the media to conduct the debate.

Yours faithfully. ROBERT ROSCOE,

CHRISTOPHER MURRAY (Vice-President) SUE GREEN Coming Vice-President The London Criminal Courts.

Solicitors' Association. 8 Bow Street, WC2. January 8.

#### From Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank

Sir. Harold Pinter should be more explicit. The Labour Party is certainly failing to oppose the provisions for electronic surveillance in the Police Bill; but the other Opposition party. the Liberal Democrats, is leading the fight against them. The House of Lords will vote on my

amendment to Clause 91, which would require judicial authorisation for any police bugging, on January 20. I hope Harold Pinter's friends in the Labour Party will join me in the lobby.

Yours faithfully RODGERS of QUARRY BANK. House of Lords. January 9.

#### A stitch in time . . .

From Mr Colin MacGregor

Sir, Imagine my surprise to read in The Cricketer magazine: England discarded the traditional tour blazer when they flew out to Zimbabwe on November 26. in favour of black suits. David Lloyd explained that the formal dress was donned "to send the message that we are here on serious business".

Might I suggest that a tailor is found to run up twenty blue blazers and grey flannels in double-quick time before further disasters occur.

Yours faithfully, COLIN I. C. MacGREGOR, 7 Titchwell Road, SW18. January 7.

Sport letters, page 42

#### Response to Pinter Monarchy on the public agenda

From Professor Stephen Haseler

Sir. By the time I opened the republican case in Carlton TV's debate on monarchy last Tuesday freports and letters. January 9), I was becoming aware of the bear-garden atmosphere that was about to engulf the programme. Yet, as the show progressed, my initial misgivings — about the soundbites, the heckling, the rowdiness - gave way to a sense of relief.

After all, a real national issue was finally being aired - if nor debated before a mass audience, and the public was being encouraged, no matter how inadequately, to participate rather than sit passively by whilst being instructed by "expens".

Before we condemn Carlton Television, therefore, we need to ask why such shows - and they are "shows" reach and keep such huge audiences. Is it possible that our timid politicians, who seem frightened to raise any contentious issue at all, no matter how important, have created the vacuum into which mass "infotainment" TV is now moving? Is it possible that the outrageous unofficial gag still operated by the Speaker on parliamentary discussion of monarchy could also have contributed to the emergence of a new kind of forum?

Certainly the Carlton monarchy show exhibited all the vulgarity of mass British popular culture, but too much of the London-based reaction has been prissy. The British have strong views on monarchy and the royals, and attempts to stifle discussion will inevitably lead to "infotainment" supplanting serious and informed debate.

Cariton Television has helped place the monarchy, and its republican

alternative, firmly on the agenda. That is a public service if I ever saw

Sincerely yours, STEPHEN HASELER (Chairman), Republic, PO Box 2698, London W14 9ZT. January 9.

From the Chairman of the Market Research Society

Sir. Phone-in polls, such as the one used on the monarchy debate, are no way to gauge the true opinion of the British public. They do little more than tell us which lobby group has been most successful in encouraging

people to phone in.

This kind of exercise should be clearly distinguished from professionally conducted survey research which ensures that the views of a representative sample of individuals are obtained.

Yours faithfully, D. V. L. SMITH, Chairman, The Market Research Society, 15 Northburgh Street, ECI. January 8.

From Mr Jasper Archer

Sir, Carlton made much of the fact that their audience for the great debate had been "hand-picked". One wonders by whom? Perhaps, even more to the point, who picked the hand-pickers?

JASPER ARCHER. The Malt House, Stapleford, Wiltshire.

#### Screen test for 'Hollywood Lovers'

From the Chairman of Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television

Sir, Anyone reading your report of January 4, "TV chief bans Hollywood Lovers series". might draw the conclusion that programme planning at Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television is conducted on the basis of capricious and quixotic decisions. That is far from re-

An experienced senior programme executive is responsible for previewing all programmes which might cause concern, for a whole variety of reasons. If something worries him he brings the matter to the weekly meeting of executive directors who consider the evidence and collectively decide if the programme should be

As a result of this process we last year decided not to transmit Carnal Knowledge, God's Gift and The Good Sex Guide. Two months ago we said

we did not intend to carry Hollywood Lovers.

I believe that independent television, as a service directed at the familv audience, should be able to perform without recourse to gratuitous violence, sexual titiliation and smut without wit. If people buy videos, or subscribe to

a pay-per-view service or go to the cinema, that is up to them. But ITV comes into the home without viewers having any clear idea of what is going

That being so, I believe we have to be responsible — even if withdrawing a programme does irritate some

Yours faithfully, Chairman and Chief Executive, Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television, 15/16 Bloomsbury Square, WC1.

Combating dementia

Sir. The new drug which helps to alle-

viate the early symptoms of Alzhei-

mer's disease for around 50 per cent of sufferers (Medical Briefing, January

older patients was until recently attri-

buted to Alzheimer's, but that figure

has been revised down to 50 to 60 per

quire different management how-

ever. Those suffering from Lewy body

dementia, for instance, which primar

ily affects a different part of the brain,

have periods of lucidity which, if re-

cognised, could be used by family and

carers to involve sufferers in decisions

Biochemically, too, the diseases are

different, which probably means that

The various kinds of dementia re-

About 75 per cent of all dementia in

From the Director of

Research into Ageing

7) is welcome.

January 6.

#### Nurses' training

From the Reverend P. Rowntree Clifford

Sir. Contrary to the views expressed by the President of the Royal College of Nursing and Ms Anna Huxtable (letters, December 31; see also letters, January 7). I believe a rapidly growing number of patients and professional medical people would unhesitatingly endorse the excellent article by Nigel la Lawson (December 26) on the widespread decline in the quality of nurs-

An academic degree may confer a certain social status, but it does not qualify those in the caring professions for the skills they need in tending the sick. Indeed, it may deter many of those who are desperately needed in our understaffed health service. Nursing is an art, not a science. Although a core of academically qualified technicians may be required to support the doctors, the urgent need is for more and better supervised carring nurses

trained on the wards. The Project 2000 scheme is likely to prove a disaster by transferring so much training to polytechnics. The inevitable decline might begin to be reversed by restoring the duties of the enrolled nurse and bringing back the crucial functions of matron and ward sister at the expense of a mushrooming administrative bureaucracy.

Yours faithfully. P. ROWNTREE CLIFFORD. The Reform Club. 104 Pall Mall, SWI. January 7.

#### Visiting Australia

From Mr J. B. Griffin Sir, Dr Neal Blewett, the Australian

High Commissioner, says (letter, January 6) that holiday visitors to his country need to complete only a simple, two-page, visa application form. I shall be one of the 300,000 UK tourists (Dr Blewett's figures) visiting Australia this year, and while Down Under I shall visit New Zealand. For the former I need a visa; for the latter I

Holidays in recent years have taken me to the US, Canada, various Caribbean locations, most EU countries, Malta, Cyprus, Tunisia. Morocco and, most recently, on a tour including Poland. Hungary. Slovakia and the Czech Republic. For none of these did I need a visa. Why Australia?

Yours faithfully, L B. GRIFFIN 9 Oakwood Drive, Leigh, Lancashire. January 6.

regarding future care.

different drugs will be required to al-leviate the symptoms of the two diseases. This may account for the "failure" rate of the two drugs currently on the US market for Alzheimer's. More basic research into the mechanisms of the diseases of dementia is required to reduce the numbers suffering from these devastating and

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH MILLS. Director. Research into Ageing, Baird House. 15-17 St Cross Street, ECI. January 7.

#### From Mrs Jean Heald Sir. Even expatriate Australians find

costly conditions.

it difficult to visit Australia these days. I have lived in Britain since 1934 but happened, by accident, to be born in

Melbourne. I have been back to Australia on perhaps six or seven occasions, always on a British passport. On our last visit in the autumn of 1995 we found we had to apply for visas. My (British) husband received his immediately and free. Mine was refused. I had to apply for an Austra-

lian passport at short notice. With train fares it cost me £87. Yours sincerely.

JEAN C. HEALD, Rebbur House, 108 Nicker Hill, Keyworth, Nottingham.

Business letters, page 29

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

#### Finding the best home for ENO

From Sir John Tooley

Sir, The English National Opera management should not be deterred from its proposed move to another site in London by the charge of breaches of faith by David Mellor (report, Janu-

The acquisition of the Coliseum for ENO by the Government in May 1992, with some additional funding from the Sports and Arts Foundation, was an important and generous act, even if it could be perceived as a gen-ture of political expediency. But to accept that blindly as meaning that ENO must remain there indefinitely is folly and the negation of an oppor-tunity for ENO and the Aris Council to re-examine ENO's place in the op-

eratic life of the country.
London, by the size of its population alone, can surely justify the existence of two opera houses, but not two of similar size, and in the centre of the metropolis. Everything, barring perhaps box-office income, points to the work of the Royal Opera House being complemented by ENO in a smaller theatre (1,500-1,600 seats), strategically placed for audience access and proriding the young singer with the conditions for development in a modestly sized auditorium and in a relatively unpressurised situation.

The move of the Sadlers Wells Opera Company to the Coliseum from Rosebery Avenue in 1968 - a move largely determined by expediency and frustration following the rejection of plans to build a new theatre for Sadlers Wells Opera on the South Bank changed the scene for the young singer adversely. It is true that the growth of regional opera has made up for some of that loss, but not entirely so; and there are also considerations of

repertoire to be taken into account. We should not lose this chance of looking again at what is really required for the future health and wellbeing of opera in this country, for performer and audience alike.

Yours faithfully, JOHN TOOLEY (Director, Royal Opera House, 1970-88), 2 Leinster Mews, W2. January 7.

From Mr David S. Lindsay

Sir. In July 1995 you reported that the Royal Opera House wished to build at a relatively modest cost a prefabri-cated building close to London Bridge for use during refurbishment at Cov-

Two difficulties were mentioned the time needed to obtain planning permission (which you reported on October 31, 1996, had at last been granted) and the problem of what to do with the new building once vacat-

Today you report that English National Opera has finally decided to leave the Coliseum for a new building but there is no mention of the London Bridge site as an option. Is this not

Yours faithfully, DAVID S. LINDSAY, 42 Lyndhurst Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent. January 7.

#### Peter's Irish friend

From Mrs M. O'Connor McNamara

Sir, Besides learning shipbuilding at Deptford (leading article, December 31). Peter the Great had the opportunity to meet and converse with the learned young Bernard O'Connor, MD. who fortunately recorded the discourses he had with the Tsar of Muscovy and his physicians on the blank pages of his 1697 edition of Myographia Nova by John Browne, surgeon

to William III. This volume is now in the possession of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and Dr O'Connor's notes are an insight into Russia in the 17th century based on the conversations he had with the Russian visitors between April 5 and April 19, 1698.

Dr O'Connor, an ancestor of mine, died in October 1698 aged 32. He was born in County Kerry, obtained his MD in Rheims in 1693, was a physician to John Sobiesky III. King of Poland, wrote the first history of Poland in English, and was elected a member of the Royal Society.

Yours sincerely, MAUREEN O'CONNOR McNAMARA,

Carrigafoyle, Sheringham Close, Staplecross, East Sussex. January 6.

#### Eye of the beholder

From Mrs Anne McKay

Sir, "Gorgeous", "beautiful", "handsome" -- if any of us 55 to 60 years ago had thus announced the arrival of a baby (letter, January 3) our contemporaries would have taken the mickey and the child would later have been teased.

I was surprised to read in the announcement of my latest great-grandchild that she is "scrumptious" (which I admit she really is), but how nice that Matilda has arrived to one of these starry-eyed couples who sound so warm and welcoming - in contrast to an announcement I have never forgotten: "To John and Mary [so-andsoj, yet another daughter".

Yours faithfully, ANNE McKAY. Lynwood, Heath Rise. Camberley, Surrey. January 4.

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#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE** January 9: The Princess Royal, President, this morning visited Save the Children Fund Shops. Her Royal Highness first visited 2 William Street, Windsor, and was received by Her Majesty's

Lord-Lieutenant of the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr Philip The Princess Royal afterwards visited 9 West Street, Reading, and was received by Mr John Hancock (Deputy Lieutenant of the Royal County of Berkshire). Her Royal Highness subsequently visited II-I3 Market Street, Newbury, and was received by Mr William Paimer (Deputy Lieutenant of

the Royal County of Berkshires. ST JAMES'S PALACE January 9: The Prince of Wales this morning presented the 1995 Wilkinson Sword of Peace Award to HMS Illustrious and HMS Invincible at Portsmouth Naval Base for their contribution to the Bosnian Peacekeeping Operation.

KENSINGTUN PALACE January 9: The Princess Margaret Countess of Snowdon, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Coningsby, today received Group Captain M.A. Gleave on relin quishing his appointment as Station Commander, and Group Captain A.J. Lockwood on assuming this appointment.

dinner at the Mansion House last

evening the Chief Commoner and

Members of the Court of Common Council, the Lord Mayor of West-

minster. Mayors and Leaders of

Greater London Boroughs, Alder-men, High Officers of the Corpora-

tion of London and Ward Clerks of

The Lord Mayor, the Chief Commoner and the Chairman of

the Association of London Govern-

ment were the speakers. Among

uniers present were:
The Hon Peter Brooke, CH, MP,
Commander Sir Robin Gillett, Sir
Anthony Joilife, Sir Michael
Pickard, Mr C Brearley, Mr E J
Brown, Mr A Cunningham, Mr A
Foster, Mr R Moote, Mr S O'Brien,
Miss J Page, Ms C Seamen, Mr A
Tallentire, Mr K Taylor, Mr T Travers
and Mr G Ward.

Major-General Michael Tennant

has assumed the appointment of

Chairman of the Combined Cadet

Force Association in succession to

Major-General Peter Shapland.

Church in Wales

The Rev John Glover, Rector of

Halkyn, Caerfallwch and Rhesycae, to be Vicar of Rhyl.

Dr John Crump, formerly of York

University, has been appointed to the WYWY Chair of Japanese

University news

Studies from January I.

Diocese of St Asaph

the City of Landon.

others present were:

Appointment

Combined Cadet Force

Dinner

Lord Mayor

#### Dame Diana Reader Harris

A Memorial Service will be held in Sherborne Abbey, Dorset on Friday, January 31, 1997, at 2.30pm. with a reception afterwards at Sherborne School's Dining Hall. It to attend the Service could send a card to: The Secretary, Sherborne School for Girls, Sherborne, Dor-ser DT9 3QN, Telephone: 01935 812245, Fax: 01935 814973.

#### Rohan D'Olier Butler

A Memorial Service for Rohan D'Olier Butler, CMG, MA. DLitt. FRHistS, will be held in the Chapel. All Souls College on Saturday, February 8, 1997, at

#### Francis A. Singer

A service of celebration for the life of Francis A. Singer, DSc. will be held at St Paul's Church, Wilton Place. Knightsbridge on Friday. January 24, at 11.30am.

#### The Royal Society of Chemistry

The following were admitted as Fellows of The Royal Society of Chemistry in December 1996. They are entitled to use the designation 'Chartered Chemist ocsgnandy Charles Chemist and the letters CChemis RSC.

J P Agrawal, P F G Banilli, R F Bartholomew, J T Bordak, I M Brast, R Cleeg, R W Crawford, S Eccles, J R M Hammond, B Harrison, A Hopkinson, C A Lawson, M A Mesubl, C H Ostorne, S B Padhye, A D Ruffle, N S Scrunon, E Wildsmith, W T Wong.

#### **Anniversaries**

Stirling

BIRTHS: Michel Ney, communder of Napoleon's Old Guard. Saarlouis, Germany, 1769; Adrien Wettach (Grock), clown, Recouviller, Switzerland, 1890: Alexel Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist and playwright, 1883: Dame Barbara lepworth, sculptor, Wakefield.

DEATHS: William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury 1633-45, be-headed. London, 1645: Edward Cave, publisher, London, 1754: Carolus Linnaeus, botanist, Upp-sala, Sweden, 1778: Mary Russell Mitford, essavist and dramatist. Samuel Colt. gunsmith, 1862: Wilshowman, Denver, Colorado, 1917: Frank Bridge, composer, East-bourne, 1941; Sinclair Lewis, novelist. Nobel laureate 1930, Rome, 1951: Gabriela Mistral, noet and novelist, Nobel laureate 1945, New York, 1957; Gabrielle (Coco) Chanel, fashion designer, Paris, 1971;

Nubar Gulbenkian, 1973. The London Underground (Metropolitan Railway; system started.

The Standard Oil Company of Ohio was founded by William and John D. Rockefeller, 1870. The First World War officially ended after the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles by Germany and the Allies, 1920. The first assembly of the UN was held in London, 1946.

#### School announcements

Arnold School, Blackpool The Spring Term began on Mon-day, January 6, and will end on Wednesday, March 26. The Entrance Examinations will take place on Saturday, February I, and the Scholarship Examination on Thursday, February 6. This Term's events include: a Burns Supper on Saturday, January 25; a recital by the Arensky Trio on Sunday, January 26; a Music, Drama and Dance Evening at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Friday. February 21; an illustrated talk on Turner by Stanley War-burton on Thursday, February 27: the Prefects' Dinner on Friday. February 28, the Headmaster's Debate with guest speakers Michael Jack, MP. PC. and District Judge Michael Buckley (OA) on Saturday. March 8: the Sportsman's Dinner with guest speaker Fred Trueman, on Tuesday, March II; the Oxford and Cambridge Conference for Sixth Formers on Monday, March 24; the School Concert on Tuesday, March 25. The Girls' Ulo Hockey team will take part in the National Finals at Mülton Keynes and during the Easter Holidays the 'A' level Geologists will travel to the Alps and there will be a ski-ing The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Miss Melissa Cork, entertained at party to Stowe, USA. Arnold School, Blackpool is a

> No 526679. Harrogate Ladies' College Harrogate Ladies' College opened for the Spring Term on Wednes-day, January 8, Entrance tests for September 1997 take place on Wednesday, January 22. The All England Senior Reserves Lacrosse Tournament will be held at the College on Saturday/Sunday,

> > Anton Rodgers, the

actor, is 64 today

Sir Walter Bodmer, FRS. geneti-cist, 61; Sir Robin Chichester-

Clark, former MP, 69; Mr Tom

Clarke, MP. So: Professor Rodney

Eatock Taylor, mechanical en-

gineer, 53; Dr R.D.H. Gem, sec-

retary, Cathedrals Fabric

Arthur Gold, honorary life presi-

dent, European Athletic Associ-ation, 80; Mr Derek Hammond-

haritane. 71: Sir David Hookin.

former Chief Metropolitan Stipen-

diary Magistrate, 75: Sir Derek

Hornby, former chairman, British

Overseus Trade Board, 67: Mr

Clive Jones, chief executive,

Carlton Television, 48; Sir Robert Marshall, civil servant, 77; Dr

ter. Downing College, Cambridge, 69: Sir David Miers, diplomat. 60:

Mr Denis Peach, former Chief

Charity Commissioner, 69; Mr

Rod Stewart, rock singer, 52; Mrs

Customs and Excise, 57; Sir John

Wall, dipiomat, 50: Ms Marjorie

Wallace, chief executive, SANÉ, 52.

Stroud, concert and

**Birthdays** 

today

registered charity which exists for the education of children, Charity

January 25 and 26; the Scottish Schools' Invitation Tournament is on Saturday, February 22 and the All England Schools' Tournament is on Tuesday, March 4, at Milton Keynes. St Michael's Hospice will hold a Cheese & Wine Supper in school on Tuesday. March II, at 7.30pm. The Choir sings Evensong at Ripon Cathedral on Wednesday. February 26, at 5.30pm and the Drama Club presents The Wizard of Oz at 7.30pm on Sunday, March 23. The History/French Study Tour departs for Ypres on Monday, March 24. Half term is from noon on Saturday, February 8, to 8.30pm Sunday, February 16, and

Church at 2.15pm. An educational charity registered number 529579 which exists to provide high quality education for

The King's School, Ely

term ends on Tuesday. March 25.

after the Choir's performance of Handel's Messiah in St Wilfrid's

The Lent Term began on Wednes-day. The Concert Band will ent their traditional New Year Concert with Buffet Supper in the Hayward Theatre on Friday, Janu-ary 31, and the Young Performers of the Year Finalists' Concert will take place on Friday, February 14. The 11+ scholarship examination will be held on Friday, January 31, and that for 13+ academic awards on Friday and Saturday, March 7 and 8. Art and Design scholarship examinations will be conducted on Saturday, February 1; auditions for Music awards will take place on Friday and Saturday, February 7 and 8; and Sports awards will be made on the basis of practical assessments being held on Sat-urday. February 8. The AD-HOC

Theatre Group will present

Gotcha on Thursday, February 13, and the Junior School production of The Boyfriend will take place in the Hayward Theatre in matinee on Tuesday, March II, and at evening performances on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, March 12-14. The 1997 Osmond Lecture will be given by Dr Jonathan Shanklin on Friday, February 28, under the title "Environmental Change in Antarctica'. The Lord Bishop will conduct the Confirmation Service on Saturday, March I. at 11.00am in the Cathedral. There will be a Burns Night Dinner on Friday, March 14, and the Hoop Trundle will be conducted on Saturday, March 15. Term ends on

Friday, March 21. Queen's College, London

Term began on Tuesday, January 7. The Entrance Examination (11+) takes place on Friday, January 17 Half Term is from Monday, February 17, to Friday, February 21, inclusive. Term ends after Founder's Day on Wednesday, March 26. The Founder's Day Service will be held at All Souls, Langham Place, at 2.15pm. Mem-bers of Old Queen's Society may like to know that this year's Summer Party will be held on Wednesday, June 25, from 6-8pm at the College.

The Spring Term at Queenswood begins on Sunday, January 12 and ends on Friday, March 21. A. Choral Weekend takes place on March 15/16 - a weekend of rehearsal and a concert for a performance of Mozart's Requiem.
Friends of the school are welcome: events and concerts are available from the Music Department.

#### Did poor central heating set Roman villas on fire?

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

THE destruction by fire of numerous Roman villas across England has often been attributed to civil unrest or barbarian invasion, and thus strengthened interpretations of later Roman times as being lawless. The real cause, however, may have been much more peaceful, mundane, and close to home: faulty central

heating. While it is well-known that better-class Roman houses had one or more rooms heated by a hypocaust system, in which hot air passed through channels below the floor and in ceramic pipes up the thickness of the walls, the question of where and how the gases were vented has been little considered, Mr Michael Astill. archaeology journal ARA, suggests that this may have

been where problems lay. "If the vertical ducts were transferred to a horizontal plane at the eaves, this would dramatically reduce the drawing effect of the up-draught," he says. "All chimneys have as near a vertical draw as possible; the higher the outlet the better. The ridge is best, and some portery objects could have been chimney pots at the highest and most efficient

point to extract the gases." Below the ridge line, back draught can occur, and gaps at the eaves would pull in air

to ventilate the roof void, while

also allowing birds to come in and nest, Mr Astill says. If the pottery pipes carrying the gases were not heavily rendered in the roof, cracks might well develop as the walls settled over the years, and if hot gases could escape, a potentially serious fire hazard would exist. Old birds' nests would provide a ready supply of flammable material.

A Nottinghamshire Fire Service expert agreed, pointing out that eventually the gases could cause friction within this tinder and make it ignite, while a sudden increase in heat from the furnace could do the same. Such pyrophoric effects are similar to those in heathland fires in a dry SURROMET.

tion of the villa roof, by the time the fire was detected it would be too late to extinguish with the available technology of hand-filled buckets, Mr Astill says. In granaries, incorrect storage can lead to spontaneous combustion, with similar effects on the timber construction."Consequently, fire demage to Roman buildings may owe more to inadequate domestic maintenance than to the vagaries of brigandage," he concludes. Source: ARA No. 2:11-12 (Edi-

tor: David Gollins, 65 Jacklyns Lane, Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9LF: fax 01962-736206)

#### Forthcoming marriages

and Miss L.M.A. Seydlitz

والمنابية والمتعملات وللوافق للتصويف والماح والمتعالية فالماط والمتعارب والمتعارب

The engagement is announced between Allan, younger son of the Hon Francis and Mrs Noel-Baker. of Euboca, Greece, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs Slawomir Seydlitz, of Harefield, Middlesa

Mr J. Spring Rice and Miss N.L. Robinson

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of the Hon Michael and Mrs Spring Rice, of Nettleton, Wiltshire, and Natalie-Lara, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Rivett Robinson, of Bray-on-Thames, Berkshire. Mr N.R. Barticii

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Commander and Mrs John Bartlett, of Embleton, Cumbria, and Philippa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Boswell, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

and Min P.M. Bosnell

Mr S.R. Blackburn and Miss M.J. Morgan The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr. beween Smort, only son of Mr.
Joseph Blackburn, of Redditch,
and Mrs Iris Blackburn, of Windsor, and Miranda, only daughter
of Mr David Morgan, of London,
and Mrs. Clare Findlay, of
Fochsbers. Smoland.

Mr D.M.D. Morgan and Miss S.K. Read The engagement is announced between Dominic, only son of Mr beween Donnie, only son of sur David Morgan, of London, and Mrs Clare Findlay, of Fochabers, Scodand, and Susannah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip

Read, of Buth. Mr A.N.D. Brown and Miss S.L. Woodhouse

The engagement is announced between Alexander Nicholas Dashwood, only son of the late Mr H.D. Brown and of Mrs H.E. Brown of Battle, East Sussex, and Sarah Louise, younger daughter of Mr LW. Woodhouse, of Tokyo, and Mrs N.J. Boisseau, Dunsfold, Surrey. Mr M.D.R. Hewitt

and Mino A.F. Stone The engagement is announced between Mike, sort of Mrs. Susan Hewitt, MBE, and the late Danny Hewitt, of Haverfordwest, daughter of Mr Ted Stone and the late Jeane Stone, of Winterslow, Mr J.F. Bourke and Miss H.S.E. Davies

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, only son of Mr and Mrs Ben Bourke, of Dulwich, London, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Davies, of Bungay, Suffolk.

Mr M. Delane and Miss K. Affen The engagement is announced between Marc, son of Mr and Mrs Dennis Delane, of Radieu. Hertfordshire, and Katherine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs. John Allen, of St John's Wood,

London. Captain R.C.S. Hall and Miss E.A. Paravicini The engagement is announced between Captain Bobby Hall. The Life Guards, son of Brigadier Robert Hall, of Manningford Abbots, Wiltshire and the late Mirs Robert Hall, and Elizabeth Ann. daughter of Major Nicolas Paravicini, of Brecon, Powys, and Mrs Mary Ann Paravicini, of Warfield, Berkshire.

Mr W.J.E. Kerr Min W.M. Mos The engagement is announced between Everitt, son of Mr and Mrs William Kerr, of Farnstield

Nottingham, and Wendy, daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Douglas Moat, of Burwash, East Sussex. Mr S.M. Lindoe

and Miss K.A. Butterfield The engagement is announced between Stephen, eldest son of the late Michael Lindoe and of Mrs Dorothy Thompson, now of Angle-sey, North Wales, and Kerry, third daughter of Mr and Mrs John tierfield, of Anglesey. North

Wales. Mr C.H. Newman and Ms S.J. Luder The engagement is amounced between Charles, son of Mrs. Sheila Newman and the late Mi Gerald Newman, of Oxted, Surrey, and Sara, third daughter of Mr. Owen Luder, CBE, of Westminster, London, and of Mrs Doris Luder, of Dulwich, London Mr J.F. van Oordt

and Miss N.F. Jones The engagement is announced between frederik, younger son of Mr and Mrs G.H.L. van Oordt, of Quito, Ecuador, and Natalle, saughter of Mr Edward Jones, of Chicalder, London, and Mrs. Chiswick Loudon, and Mrs. Patricle Mowbray, of St Mar-

Mr N.W. Rowe and Miss V.L. Shaw The engagement is announced between Neil son of Mr and Mrs

Terry Rowe, of Bedworth, Warwickshire, and Victoria daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Shaw, of The Park, Nottingham, Mr D.J. Supple

and Miss V.J. Ingledew The engagement is announced between Dermot elder son of Mr and Mrs Maurice Supple, of Alwoodley, Yorkshire, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs. Barry Ingledew, of Cobham.

Surrey. Mr S.M. Wallace and Miss V.L. Stickland The engagement is announced between Sean, only son of the late Mr Michael Wallace and of Mrs Wallace, of Dar es Salaam and Johannesburg, and Victoria, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Stickland, of The Old Parsonage,

Rolvenden, Kent. Mr N.L.S. Wilson and Miss J.R. Farrington and Miss J.K. Farrington
The engagement is announced between Neil, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Wilson, of London, and Jane, only daughter of Mr Anthony Farrington and Mrs Gordon Hatfield, of London.

Mr M.J. Wolton and Miss K.A. Stanisich

and Miss K.A. Standard.

The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Wolton, of Little Saxham, Suffolk, and Karen, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Darryl Stanisich, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr A.H. Woolich and Miss S.J. Goldstein The engagement is announced perween Anthony, son of Dr and Mrs. John Woolich, and Sara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Sidney Goldstein, both of London.

Marriage

Hamdon, Somersel.

Mr J.C. Hawes and Miss L.H. Graham and Miss L.H. Grahman
The marriage took place quietly in
Nuwara' Eliya, Srl Lanka, on
January' 4, between Mr Jerzny
Charles Hawes, son of Mr and
Mrs John Hawes, of New Yan,
Oxon, and Miss Lucy Helen
Graham, daughter of Mr Ivar
Mallse Graham, of Hurstplerpoint, Sussex, and of Mrs laabel
Mary Graham, of Norton sub
Hamdon, Somersel.

#### Church news

garets, Surrey.

The Rev Ian Hilton, Assistant Curate, Aspley, Nottingham (Southwell): to be Priest in charge. Colchester New Town and The Hythe St Stephen, St Mary Mag-dalene and St Leonard (Cheima-

The Rev Mark Howarth, Vicar, Swaffnam Prior, Swaffnam Bul-beck and Reach: to be also Rural The Rev Brian Mannews, Chan-

Mer. France: to be Canoni Emeritus of the Pro-Cathedral of St Paul, Valletta, Malta (Europe). The Rev Andrew Mitchem, Shrine Priest, Walsingham: to be Vicar, West Worthing St John the Divine (Chichester). The Rev Simon Morgan, Curate,

Peacehaven and Telscombe w Piddinghoe and Southease to be Priest- in-charge, East Dean w. Friston and Jevington (Chichester). The Rev Peter Owen-Jones, Curate, Leverington w Wisbech St Mary: to be Rector, Haslingfield w Hartton and Great and Little Eversden (Ely). The Rev Dr Richard Reeve, paired:

to be Resident Minister. Bictori. Montford w Shrawardine and Fitz (Lichfield). The Rev Keith Smith, Curate

(NSM), Maybridge: to be Assistant Curate, Durrington (Chichester). The Rev Joanna Stoker, Priest-incharge, Seer Green and Jordans: to be Team Vicar, the Stantonbury and Willen Team Ministry (Ecumenical parish) w respon-ability for St. James, New Bradwell

(Oxford).
The Rev Michael Wright, Priest-in-charge, St Edmund, Anchorage Lane, Doncaster, and part-time Chaptain of Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Montague Hospital. NHS Trust: to be full-time Chaplain to Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Monague Hospital NHS
Trust (Sheffield).

Resignations and retirements Canon Jan Carapbell, Rector, Britisan Team Ministry (Exeter): to ratine January 31, 1997. The Rev David Flarmon, Assistant Minister, Gorleston St Andrew (Norwich): refixed November

The Rev Michael Homewood. Rector, South Molton Team Minisry (Exeter): to retire July 51, 1997.
The Right Risv James Johnson,
Vicar: Hockley and Assistant
Bishop in the diocese of Chelmsford: to retire as from May 31, 1997, and then be appointed an Honor-ary Assistant Bishop in the diocese.

Preb Ray Howard Jones. Communications Adviser, Bish-op's Staff Officer and Prebendary of Hereford Cashedral (Hereford): to retire January 15-1997. Canon Brian Jones, Vicar, Cambridge St John and Rural Dean of Cambridge (Ely): to refire January

31, 1997. The Rev Bric Manley Harris, Hon-Curate Torquay St John and Christchurch Ellacombe (Exercr): to retire December 31. The Rev Edward Parker, Rector, Missley w Manningtree St Mary

and St Michael w Bradfield St Lawrence (Chelmsford): to retire April 30, 1997. The Rev Anthony Pinches, Vicar, Shiphay, Collaion (Exeter): to retire September 30, 1997.

Canon Roland Taylor, Vicar, Badsworth St Mary and North Elmsall St Margaret (Wakefield): to retire January 31, 1997, and to be -Canon Emeritus, Wakefield Canon Bill Todd, Vicar, St Chris-

iopher, Norris Green (Liverpool): to retire March 30, 1997 The Rev Brian Tonge, Curate, St Andrew w St Margaret, Burnley (Blackburn): to retire May 16, 1997. The Rev John Wickens, Honorary - (Southwark): has retired.

FAX: 0171 481 9313

THANKSGIVING

HOSEASON-BROWN
Theodore of Clifton, Schmid.
5th April 1907 6th
December 1996. A
Thenksgiving Service for the
His of Theodore (Teddy)
Hoseason-Brown will be
held at Christ Church,
Morrimser Road, Clifton,
Ristol, on Wednesday 5th
February 1997 at 11.30 an.
All relatives and friends
welloune.

SERVICES

SERVICES

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

#### PERSONAL COLUMN

God will show your ridiance to every land under heaven from him you will receive for ever the name Righteon; Peace, the Spiendour of God liness Baruch 5: 3,4

BURCHHARDT - On January 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Helen and Charles, a beautiful sea Joshua Rez William.

BUSH - On 6th January, to Gary and Susan (nde Pellatt), a daughter, Kathryn Isabel, a sister for James. FISHLEGH - On 4th January, to Gillian (nee Ryder) and Robert, a beautiful doughter, Heapor Alexandra.

FOSTER - On 19th December 1996, to Asha and Oliver, a daughter, Laura Madeleine Poppy, a sister for Freddie. GRAHAM - On December 29th to Catriona (nee Merrylees and Alastair, a daughter Rosey (Rosemary Seattles Janet), a sister for Hamish 1996, to Emily (nee Kinsey) and Stephen, a soa, Gay Albert Melville, a brother for Cecily.

LOWE - To Julie and Anthon a little angel daughter, Lycinda jane Carter, on 23rd December at Royal Shrewsbuty Hospital

LUNDBERG - On 9th January 1997, to David and Isabella, a son, Samuel, a brother for Jessica and Hannah Mai. MATHEWSON - On 7th January, to Susan (née Kilpatrick) and Alastair, a son, James William Douglas. McMillan - On Sth January

1997 a beautiful daughts tona jame to Natasha at Vincent, and sister to Laur PALARM - On 8th January, to Carolyn and Tim, a wonderful daughter, Rachel Louise, sister to Anna and ROWLAND - On December

14th, to Karen (nee Fairholme) and Philip, daughter, Rowena Katie MAITON. On January 3rd 1997, in Khon Kaen, Thailand, to Hilary (nee Jeanings) and Timothy, a daughter, Lucy Petra

WEST - On 4th January in Singapore, to Colin and Lucy, a daughter, Olivia Lucy, a sister for Eleanor, Charlotte and Loura. WHYTE-On 1st January 1997 at University College Hospital, London, to Monica (neo Kappor) and Peter, a son, a brother for Isabelle. Dee Gratias.

DEATHS ALLEN - Michael Gordon. dearly loved husband of Alison of Bell Lang, Minchinhampton, son of the

Alison of Bell Lane, Mibschinhampton, son of the late Stdney and Bessie (formerly of Moor Court, Amberley) in Strond Hospital of January 6th. Funetal Service at Holy Trinity Church, Mibschinhampton at 2.15 pm on Thursday 16th January, Samily flowers only, donations in Heat for Horsfall House or Staart House may be sent to Fred Stevens, Funeral Director, Newmarket Road, Nalisworth, Glos. GL6 CD0.

BALLARD - On 6th January peacefully after a short illness (Mildred) Ann, beloved wife of Kenneth, addred mother and grandmother. Funeral at St Giles' Church, Horsted Keynes, at 2.30 pm Friday 17th January. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Chailey Heritage Appeal cio Masters & Son, Lindfield, Sussex RH16 2LR

BARBER - Iris Stoart (Déc

BARBER - Iris Stuart (nee Baker) on 5th January quietly at Kingswood Court. Kingswood, in her 98th year. Devoted mother and grandmother to Michael. Jeanmotte, Sally and Juliet. Funezal Thursday 16th January 4 pm at Randalis Park Crematorium. Lartherhead, Family flowers only Donations if wished to thelp the Agad Col Longhurst. 8-10 Found Lane, Epsom. AARKER-BENFIELD

BARKER-BENFIELD On December 30th Major George V. Barker-Benfield M.C., Royal Arrillery Beld. Rusband of Gig and father of Charles. The funeral has taken place in Budleigh Saleston.

BARTY-KBNG - Harel Penslope (nes Grist) of Shillinglee Part on 6th January 1997. Funoral Chicherter Carmatorium, 10 am 16th

BROCK - On January 6th 1997, Elizabeth (Berry) Brook, denry loved sister, mother, grandmother. Funeral groundmother. Functal Sarvice at Castleton Church, Sherborne at 12:30 pm on jandary 17th Family (foressonly, but donations if desired to National Childrens Home c/o Norman Brister F/D, 100 Lenthary Road, Sherborne. BROWN - Frank Leonard aged
79 of Hainault, Essex
suddenly on January 5th.
Beloved hashand of Bessie,
father of Jocelyn and
grandfather of Imogan and
Kinsten Funeral at City of
London Crematorium,
Wanstead on January 16th at
2 pm. Family flowers only,
but donations may be made
to Renal Diseases Research
Unit, c/o Dr. Michael Faftery,
Renal Unit. Royal London
Hospital, Whitechapel,
London El 18B.
BUILER - On Lanuary 8th in his

BUTLER-On January 8th in his 90th year, Air Vice Marshal Eric Scott, peacefully in hospital, much loved father and grandfather Cremation Eastbourae Crematorium 2.30 pm Tuesday 21st January. No flowers, but donations to RAF. Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Flace, London WIN 4AR.

CASMARIS - Lenning Allen na 7th January 1997, suddenly in the care of Church Farm Nursing Home, East Wittering, after many years of failing health

of failing health.

GHASTREY - Ethol Elizabeth Alice (nee Vooght), loving and much loved wife of the late Harry Francis. Dearest mother of Brinn (dec't) and Jean and mother-in-law of Victor. Peacefully at horse on 7th January in her 97th year. Donations in her memory, if desired, to The British Heart Foundation of H.C. Grimstead Ltd. Funeral Directors. 164 field End Road, Eastcote, Pinner HAS 18th.

COVERLEY - Leonard James. On January 2nd, spad 82, For 50 years a much loved and respected Schoolmaster at Cheimsford Hail Propuratory School. Easthourne. Graveside prayers 'on commettal' at Ocklynge Commettal at Ocklynge Comments of COVERLEY - Leonard In

CURTIS - Owen John, aged 70 years, on 21st December 1996, peacefully in hospital. Dearly loved husband of Jean and towing father of Andrew, Gregory and Julia. Regulom Mass was celebarted at St Vincent De Paul Church, Hull, on 31st Docember. Donations in memoriam may be made to be made to memoriam may be made to The British Diabetic Association Enquiries to Association Enquiries to E.W. Brown & Son, Funeral Directors, 433 Beverley Road, Hull. Tel: 01482 DEANE - Dr. Antony suddenly on Monday 6th January, dearly beloved by all his family. Private remarkon at Oxford Family flowers only. Memorial Service in London, details to be announced here. Denations if estimate in The British Heart Foundarion clo Tomalin & Son, Anderson Honse, 38 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thalmes, Oxfordshire, RCP 1AG, tel: (01491) 573370. DESCH - Gwendolan Lucy, 2m january 1997, suddenly am peacefully, aged 90 years Devoted mother of grea

Devoted mother of greet counse, especially latterly, she has now joined her late only son, Stephen Desch (died 31 8,96). Deeply missed by Julia (daughter-in-law). Harrier and Abigali (granddaughtem). Cremation Service, Worth, Surrey, Weinesday 15th jamuary at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Stephen Desch Memorial Fund of C. Watchouse & Sons, High Street, Surwash, E. Sx. Tei: (01435) 882219.

L Sx. Tel: (01435) 882217.

DESMEY - Munical (née Picton)
aged 90. Died pecerfully at
home on 3rd January 1997.
Beloved wire of Dr. M.E.
Dianey and mother of
Michael, Dain and Robin.
Funeral Service 11.30 am
Monday 13th January at
Holy Trinity Church,
Exmouth. Flowers or
donations to Guide Dogs for
the Bilnd'. All onquiries c/o
Richard W. Gegg Funeral
Directors. 47 Rolls Street,
Exmouth, Devon ERS 3RF.
Tet (01395) 222444.

BURKLEY - Peacefully on

Tet (01395) 222444.

DURKLEY - Peacefully on January 8th Lessie W.L. Dunkley. District Judge. Hishame of Cath and father of Tom. Service of Thanksgiving St Peter Mancroft, Norwich Tuesday January 14th at 2.30 pm followed by private interment. Family flowers only but donations in memory to Cerebral Tumour Research Fund (5t Thomas Hospital Westminster) of Peter Taylor Funeral Services, Norwich NEZ 2PE.

Services, Nouvich NG2 2PE
FIRGUSON - Ireas Camblins
Wigham on 8th January
1997 aged 78 slipped
peacefully away after a long
illness, much loved mother
of Citive and Lee and
grandmother of George and
Robbie Fameral Taursday
16th January 2.45 pm
Ashbrittle, Somerset,
followed by private
cremation, Flowers or If
preferred donations to the preferred donations to the benefit of the RNLL c/o H. Hill & Sons, Courtland Road, Wellington, Somerset.

died pancefully on Sunday 5th January 1997 at Shuriock Row. Funeral Service to be held in All Saints Church, Shuriock Kow, on Wednesday 15th January at 12.30 pm. Howers should kindly be sont to Tomalin & Son or if preferred donations to Cancur Research Campaign by Termilia & am Arman House, 38 Reading Road, Benley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, 269 1AG, tab (01491) 573370.

FLOWER - On 6th January, peacefully in hospital, Dr. Desmond John Newman Flower MC, aged 89. Crematorium Service at Islington Crematorium, London N2 at 3.30 pm Wednesday January 15th. Flowers M wished, enquire to R. Upseq & Som 0181-808 1475. Donations to the British Library Adopt A Book, Appeal, 96 Eusten Road, London NW1 2DR.

FRASER - At Winchester on 8th January Sir James Praser, loving and greatly loved husband of Mauree, father of lain and Christopher, deeply caring grandfather. Funeral private. No letters, no flowers please.

MARRIS - Joan on January 4th peacefully after a long illness at Golsworthy House, Elegaton, ased 80. Beloved sister of Anne and Hugh. Funeral at St Eichard's Church, Ashburnham Ecod, Hain, Elchmond-on-Thames, on Monday January 20th at 1 pm. No flowers but doaations if wished to Arthritis Care, 18 Stephenson Way, NW1 2ED.

on January 7th 1997 at Aideburgh Hospital in her 90th year. Whitew of Tom North Hickley, tormerly of Little Easton, Dunmow. Olga's radiance is dinmed, but not extinguished, for her friend, Vera, Funeral Service at Aideburgh Farish Church, Soffoth on Friday January 17th at 11 am. Enquiries to Tony Browns Funeral, Service, Saxmundham, Suffeth.

JOHNSON - On January 8th 1997 peacestelly in hespital Philip William aged 80 years. Seleved husband of Margaret, dear father and grandfather. Private remained the raid levrice and interment will take place at Combe Patish Church, Oxfordshire, on Thursday January 16tt. at 3pm. Family flowers only. Donations may be given for Witney Community Hospital League of Friends of 8 Enylor & Son. 21 Corbett Roed, Courtes, Cam. Gill 214.

REAST - John William uped 90 suddenly at home on Tuesday January 7th, beloved husband of Claire, dear father of Reian, Kevin and Sean and much loved grandfather of their children. Cremation at Lastherhead Crematorium, Enadalls Fark, Randalls Read, Lestherhead, on Friday January 17th at 5 pm. No flowers please but donations if desired to broth the Cross to Aifred and Ewart Longhurst, 21/23 Kingston Road, Ewell, Surrey, tel: (0181) 393-1077.

MAKINS - Peacefully on January 8th at The Gralt, Warwell Farm Rouse, Pinner, Elisabeth Mary Savile (Vermains) in her 93rd year. Director of the wartine WAGS, Club, Sloame Street, London and a manner of The Gralf since 1934. Funeral Service in The Gralf Chapel, on Thursday January 16th at noon followed by interment at St Nicholas' Church, Rotherfield Greys, Heuley-on-Thames, Enguiries to The Gralf 0181 866 0505 and flowent to Bradley 2 Jones, 7 Love Lane, Pinner, Middx, HAS 3EE.

time being:

MAREDRY - Died peacefully at home on 2nd January 1997
Haurice Arthur Mandry aged 86 years of Grovers Farm, Woodham, beloved husband of Mildred and devoted father of Jennes and Robert Funeral Wednesday 15th January, Service in Christchurch, Ottershaw, 2,30 pm, followed by burial in churchyerd. All flowers please to Walter G. Wortt, 204 Station Road, Addistane by 12 noon.

MARETON - Basil Sybester of.

Addicatine by 12 noon.

MARSTON - Hard Sylvester of.

Newmaden, raddenly on 5th

January 1997 at The

Conquest Hospital after a

short lithess, and many

years of disability

courageously borne. Much

loved by his family and

ridned. Funnel Suvice at

215 pm on Wednesdey 22nd

January at 37 Nicholas

Descrit, Suddingst, Last Ho

Hower, Jonathans Tossind

to Severn Springs Chestine

Home, Tumbridge Wells clo

C. Waterbooke & Sun, High

Street, Burenah, E. St. Tel
(01435) 882219.

McLANGHEM - On 7th Innuary

(01435) 682219.

McLARGHEN - On 7th Jonnary 1997 at The Down House, Headbourne Worthy, Winchester. Florence Patricia Allec (Naticia), beloved wife of the late Henry McLaughlin Loving mother of Anne Faithful (Australia), SIII McLaughlin and Sandy Trid (deceased). Froud grandmother and year 3 and mother timed Service at St Swithun's Church, Headbourne Worthy on 16th Instart 1997-at 2pm, Family Rowers unly - Private crumation to follow. Private cremation to follow,

1800M - On lanuary 8th 1997

at 3t statio Bospini, act,
after a short Minest, Olin
1896 83, foring widow of
Peter and much loved
1800M - On lanuary 8th 1800M

Vicki and grandmother of
Holly, Sen, Lacy, Tom and
Jamie, Funeral Service at
Haycombe Crematorium,
Bath, at 1 pm on Wednesday
january 18th Rundly flowers
only, denations it desired to
ENIE. c/o W.F. Dolman &
Son, 9 Walcot Terrace, Bath.

HARTHOLL - Phyllis May,
Theatre Historian, on 8th
January 1997 peacefully at
Pinhay Easidential Home.
Lyne Esgis, oged 90 year,
will be greatly missed by all
who knew her. Funeral
Service at 5t Michael's
Church, Lyne Regis on
Thursday, 16th January at
1.30 pm followed by private
cramation. Enquiries to A.J.
Wakely & Sons, 7A Silver
Street, Lyne Regis, Dosset,
tek (01308) 443835.

MAMERY - Died peacefully at MARTIN - Barel Montes Chi Business Code
Bursett) on Sunday Innuary
Sth at foot Historic Booghal
after a short Historic Booghal
and Andrew's Church,
Bishopthorpe, Tork on
Monday Innuary 13th hi
L-30pm, followed by
cremation at York
Crematorium at 2.30 pm.
Family Howers only, but
anationally whited in BlueForm Trust of J. Symer,
Funeral Directors, 15
Penleys Grove Stone, Jack,
TOS TEW.

FOS TPW.

MORRIS - Ann Meeson of Watting House, All Stretton, Shropshire, muck loved tister of David and Valerie and sunt of Stephen and Timodry, died Jammay Sth. Funeral Service at St Michael and All Angale, All Stretton, on Edday Jamary Lyth 230 pm, followed by private cremation. Family Disease only. Resulting the Ann's memory planes to The Shropshire and Mid-Hales. Hospites che As. Morch & Son Funeral Directors, Church Stretton, tel: (01694).

MORIF-Rugenic Louise (Rity)
peacefully at home on 4th
january 1997 aged 91;
Reloved wife of the late
Group Cristain CH (Benry)
Noble, OBE The private
Cramation was on 9th
january in the presence of
the family, Donations, may
be sent to The Royal
Mational Institute for the
limit.

OSTERWER. - Mark Leonard. On January 2nd, 1997 in New York, aged 24 Selovad 2000 of Ryellyn 2nd Sric. Loving brother of Marie-Helbas and Michelm and herother-in-law to Andrew and Hit. Cherkheld gundeon of Hose Holack. Friend to so many, his courage, strength, and sext for life were sin inspiration.

ROBRIS - Margaret Bertha, widow of Walter Townsend Robins, died peerferfuly in her sleep in her 71st year on 3rd january 1997.

Stonic - Rajor Esmond Royal Artillery (Estired) on 5th January at Staplehurst Manor Muraing Home. Beloved humbend of the International Communication of the Internation on Thursday 16th January at 1.20 pm. Howers may be sent to E.B. Sills of Granbrook telr (01580) 712284.

Mislett Shells Florence
Margaret (noe Taylor) OBE,
dearly loved wife of Roy,
mother of Rosalind and
Roland and guardmother of
Bea, Jeremy and James,
peacefully on Jenusry dissped 39 years. The functal
service will be held at Edd.
Trinity Church, Ambarley,
Stroud, on Wellnesduy,
Trinity Church, Ambarley,
Stroud, on Wellnesduy,
Tunity Church, Ambarley,
Stroud, on Wellnesduy,
Tantay 15th 8t 12 neon,
Dountinns in lieu of flowers
to Age Concern or Christian
Aid may be sent clo AllenWhite Funeral Directors.
Kings Stanley, Stonehouse,
Gos. G.10 3FG.

STROUD - Marjorie Himberi (zée Wynne) pescerhily with great dignity on January 4th beloved wife of Charles Funeral 14th January at 9.30am St Marzin-Le-Tour Cheinfield, Eust. SWYERS - November Est.

9.30 am St Martin-Le-Tour, Chelsfield, Enst.

SWYERS - Norman Eric peacefully after short illness on Tuesday 17th December 1996 aged 80. He will be sailly missed by He children, Pill, Ruth, David and Samh. The funeral was held on January 2nd 1997 in Calgary, Canada, TAROR - Joun, auddanly on 20th December in Palo Alto, California, were saw was spending the christmas holidays with her fons Fully and John, there wives and other "relatives. Cremation and memorial service were in California. PLIME PARTIES Nectional Det-ing Agency, If you are plump or prefer a plump partner stop 01352 715909. TICKETS FOR SALE Concerns & any sporting queen 0271 488 4474 (City) ALL MICONS pop & sport Cheep ear in London book now Jan 97 all tickets 620 0171 246 3990

Service were in California.

SWWIM - Elizabeth Strong,
Much loved mother of
Suphen (deceased), David,
Andrew and Mary,
Gradmother of Abstendra,
Sophie and Padly, on 7th
Immury abor a long limess.
Functal 930 am Inturchy
16th January Putney Vales
Crewstorium, Tingston
Road, Futney, London SW15.
Family flowers only,
Donations to Trinity
Hospice, 30 - Clapham
Common North Side London
SW4 ORN.

VAR DOX HI - Benjamin
Sophen suddenly in Rome Scephen suddenly in Rome on 5th January. He will be much missed by his friends.

much paissed by his triends. Musayak - Jaitsmehr bar Eth Jamany 1997 aged 67 years, much loved histoand, father and grandfather. He will be greatly missed by his family and triends. WANTED

Mink COATS, for costs pur-chased Best poler publ. An inquires/details Box No 1734 cheed Burt prior to 1734 hornical Burt No 17

4.00 ROLEK & CARTIER Wanted Right costs paids paid, 0171, 498 2092 or visit 31 Park Lang Wi.

0171 323 4486 SPECIALISTS All TICKETS

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All, gVAL-Planning, all disconnections, P.Collins, C. Dien. Bughy all sport 0171-480 6168

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#### BRIGADIER MAURICE MacWILLIAM

Brigadier Maurice MacWilliam, DSO and two Bars, MC. Territorial Army soldier, died on December 30 aged 76. He was born in Dulwich on February 7, 1920.

n one of the most remarkable lighting careers of any Territorial Army soldier in the Second World War, Maurice MacWilliam erved virtually without break with the ame battalion from the Battle of rance in 1940 to the end of operations n Italy in May 1945. In that time he progressed from platnon commander commanding officer and collected he Military Cross and three DSOs. As the war ended he briefly com-nanded the redoubtable 169th Queen's) Brigade, occupying Triess, a fity then in the shadow of the Tito nenace. He went on to serve a full and occasionally controversial career as a regular officer but his steadfast refusal to compromise on one matter of principle denied him promotion beyond the rank he had achieved at the end of the war.

Maurice Edgar MacGregor MacWilliam was the eldest son of Edgar McWilliam, Professor of Law at the London School of Economies, After fattending St Paul's School, Maurice changed his surname to MacWilliam. as he considered the "Mac" more agreeable. He had no aspirations for a military career and joined the tea importers Harrison & Crostield as a trainee. But he enlisted in the Territorlal Army in April 1939. He was commissioned into the newly formed 2/7th Battalion of The Queen's Royal. Regiment. He went to France with the battation in April 1940 as part of 12th (TA) Infantry Division, which was [htt] hall given the primary task of ploneer work

on the BEF line of communications. But the German Blitzkrieg of May 10 gave them little time for that and the gave them time the found themselves defending Abbeville after the German breakthrough at Sedan on May 14. MacWilliam won his MC at a holding an exposed position at Saleux is under intense artillery and infantry the whole of his platoon when it was about to be cut off by German armour. After evacuation from France : Age through Cherbourg and two years wife spent ready to play its part in the threatened German invasion of Brit-ain, 169th (Queen's) Brigade embarked for trag in August 1942. It was from there that it made what is reckoned to be the longest approach direct into battle - 3,313 miles by truck from Baghdad to Entidaville, Tunisia. 1970

MacWilliam won his first DSO in command of C Company 2/7th Queen's at the Salerno landing on September 9, 1943. Put ashore in the wrong place, MacWilliam's company met the flercest resistance from snipers... and machinegun positions concealed in the still-standing crops. His com-



MacWilliam as a 25-year-old battalion commander in Rome after winning his second DSO

Trieste and 169th (Queen's) Brigade

was sent to occupy the port.

MacWilliam remained in command of

his battalion until he was required to

take over temporary command of the

commission, though it was difficult to

slot such an accomplished but still

youthful veteran into peacetime army

life, He instructed at Sandhurst and

attended the Staff College, Camberley,

but a staff appointment in the War

Office convinced him of the need to find

He served with the Sudan Defence

Force from 1952 to 1954, first as second-

in-command and then as commanding

officer and was for three years on the

directing staff at Camberley. The

Queen's Regiment was crowded with

talented officers and he knew that his

chances of an early command there

were slim. He therefore looked again at

secondment opportunities and in 1958

was appointed to command the Soma-

liland Scouts, in what was then British

Somaliland. His task was to prepare this force for handover to indigenous

officers, a process that he did not find

some of the local officers impossible to

stomach and they had to go. The force

was finally handed over in excellent

shape and MacWilliam established a

easy. He found the venal aspirations of

MacWilliam then accepted a regular

brigade in October 1945.

proper employment.

pany objective was a river bridge, strongly defended by German infantry and armour, across which the enemy could counter-attack. After three separate assaults, MacWilliam took the bridge at the end of the day, thus

securing the brigade's left flank.

A year's hard fighting later and with his commanding officer wounded, MacWilliam was in temporary command of 277th Queen's during the battles to break through the Gothic Line, in the battle for control of the Germano Ridge his two leading companies suffered severe casualties and lost almost all their officers. MacWilliam went forward, reorganised the fire plan and led the two companies on to their objective, remaining to place the heavy weapons ready for the inevitable German counter-attack. It was for this exploit that he

received the first Bar to his DSO. Still a month short of his 25th birthday, MacWilliam was appointed to command the battalion and led it in the crossing of the River Reno and in all the battles which led to the entry into Venice. The citation for the second Bar to his DSO acknowledged not only his brilliant leadership but the low casculties with which his battalion had achieved its objectives.

The war over, the Western Allies were confronted by Tito's threat to

PERSONAL COLUMN

FLATSBARE

new reputation as a commander of troops of a country being prepared for independence.

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He was next selected as commander of the Federal Regular Army of Aden and the Aden Protectorates. The British Government had promised independence to the territory by 1967 and established a small parliament on the Westminster model. Unfortunately, an ill-timed attempt to extend Adeni control over the Radfan tribal territories provoked an up-country revolt. This was soon accompanied by an outbreak of vicious urban terrorism in the port city. Troops of two British brigades were barely able to contain the violence, while the Federal Regular Army, recently formed from the Aden Protectorate Levies, struggled to regain control over the Protectorates.

MacWilliam reached Aden in April

1964 and quickly pronounced the units of his new command inadequately armed and equipped for the campaign they had to fight. A list of modern weapons and equipment he judged essential was presented to GOC Middle East, together with a demand that replacement of British seconded officers by tribal or Adeni officers should be delayed until the training standards and operational efficiency of the units were both much improved. These requests were turned down, but MacWilliam stood his ground and was replaced. He was reduced to his substantive rank of colonel and sent to an administrative post in England. Ironically, the re-equipment programme that he had recommended was later implemented - but too late to

save Aden from anarchy.

Although MacWilliam later commanded a brigade of the Territorial Army and was Chief of Staff in Hong Kong, there can be no doubt that his refusal to accept second best for the Federal Regular Army cost him promotion to general. It is unlikely that he lost much sleep on that account. He placed great importance on his duty to his

He retired from the Army in 1970, when he was appointed CBE. From then until 1974 he worked for the Crown Agents and from 1974 to 1985 for the Eastern Electricity Consultative Council, in which office he was a forceful advocate and upholder of consumer interests.

In retirement he lived in Dedham, Essex, and was for several years chairman of the Dedham Vale Society for Rural Preservation. He became the leading authority for the preservation of Constable Country and was heavily involved in strengthening the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and winning important extenslons to its territory. Through the Dedham Vale Society he warded off many unsuitable developments.

He married Norah Elizabeth Young, a nursing sister, in 1941. She survives him with their two sons and four daughters.

#### SIR JOHN STOCKER

Sir John Stocker, MC. TD, PC. a former Lord Justice of Appeal, died on December 27 aged 78. He was born on October 7. 1918.

AS A High Court judge in 1985 John Stocker presided over the 119-day so-called "Cyprus spyring" trial, at which seven voune British servicemen at a radio monitoring station were accused - and subsequently acquitted - of passing secret information to the Russians. He also conducted the sevenweek trial which ended without a conviction four years earlier, following the race riots in Bristol - enhancing his reputation for fair-mindedness by trying to ensure a representative jury. Stocker could also be tough.

Sitting at Maidstone in 1979 he jailed the robber Charles Knight for 21 years after hearing that Knight and his accomplices had made nearly £2 million from a series of armed raids throughout the while still a High Court

judge he sat in the Court of Appeal in 1978, upholding the conviction of Gay News for a "blasphemous libel" - while quashing the suspended jail sentence on its editor.

Some years later, by this time (and rather belatedly) a Lord Justice of Appeal he helped to overturn a murder conviction of a teenage girl who had killed her mother while suffering from pre-menstrual tension and post-natal depression.

He was one of three judges, however, who turned down an appeal by a pub landlord who had been found guilty of racial discrimination for putting up a sign outside his inn saying "Sorry. No Travellers". He was also one of the judges who rejected an appeal by relatives six victims of the Hillsborough disaster, who claimed compensation from South Yorkshire Police for nervous shock after watching the horrific scenes on television. In delivering his judg-

ment Stocker said that the

relatives were entitled to uni-

versal sympathy - but not to damages. Despite the sequence of high-profile cases which in-volved him in one capacity or another throughout his long legal career. Stocker made comparatively few headlines himself. A somewhat tacitum man, he was not given to

extravagant phrases.



The son of a chartered accountant, John Devier Stocker was born in Wimbledon, where he was to spend much of his subsequent life. He went first to Westminster School, then to London University to read law. He was an outstanding schoolboy cricketer. Capped for his school's first XI when only 14, he held his place as a medium-fast bowler for the next four years and played for Surrey several times before the war.

He joined the Territorial Army and in 1939 was called up into the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. Posted to the 5th Battalion, he was at Dunkirk and later fought at El Alamein and in Italy, winning his MC at the battle for Monte Cassino, Invited to elaborate, he would drily reply that "it came with the rations".

Stocker, who ended the war as a lieutenant-colonel, had originally meant to be a solicitor. He changed his mind on being demobilised, however, and was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1948.

As a barrister and OC (he took silk in 1965) he built up a highly successful practice, specialising in cases involving personal injury. At one time he acted for the victims of thalidomide. But he also appeared as counsel at the Widgery Tribunal after "Bloody Sunday" of 1972 — when 13 people were

shot by British paratroopers during a civil rights march through Londonderry. Perhaps drawing on his own military experience, he sought to refute claims by the bereaved that the soldiers had opened fire indiscriminately.

Stocker was made a Recorder in 1972, then a High Court judge in the following year. He was the presiding judge for the South Eastern Circuit, 1976-79, and was elevated to the position of a Lord Justice of Appeal in 1986, 13 years after he had first gone to the High Court. He was sworn of the Privy Council on his appointment to the Court of Appeal. He retired five years ago.

In retirement he relaxed on the golf course. While younger he had continued to play cricket for many years, mainly for Wimbledon Cricket Club, which he captained. In 1993 he was elected president of Surrey.

Stocker met his wife Margaret through playing cricket: her father also belonged to the Wimbledon club. She died of cancer in 1987 after 31 years of marriage and John Stocker was deeply affected by his loss.

A rather solitary man in recent years, he recovered from a stroke which affected his speech two years ago, but died in a nursing home which he entered shortly before Christmas. He had no children.

#### DR EDWARD HARE

Dr Edward Hare, psychiatrist, died on . December 8 aged 79. He was born on August 21, 1917.

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THE 1888 - 1791-1990 page

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ars of British psychiatry in the second half of the 20th century. Edward Hare spent his

career largely as a clinician and never held an academic post. He introduced epidemiological and environmental dimensions into a speciality which had set little store by them up to the 1960s, and he also showed how historical study could throw light on the origins of psychiatric disor-

ders. His literary side found its fulfilment in his editorship of the British Journal of

Psychiatry.
The third son of a Church of England clergyman, Edward Henry Hare was educated at Tavernham College, Norfolk, from where he went on to Haileybury. His father died

FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY

when he was 13. But his mother, who had a strong

influence on him, wanted one of her sons to be a doctor, and that eventually fell to his lot. In fact, his first degree at Cambridge was in biochemis-try, but he felt uncertain of his chances of research opportunities in that subject and subse-

Moving on to University College Hospital, London, he qualified in 1943 but was found to be unfit for military service because of partial deafness. At Cambridge he had attended John MacCurdy's lectures on abnormal psychology and these inclined him to-

quently changed to medicine.

then, and remained throughout his life, consistently unsympathetic to psychoanalvsis. His first psychiatric post was at the Cardiff City Mental Hospital (now Whitchurch ). and he proceeded from there to four other mental hospitals.

moves dictated mainly by a

wards psychiatry. But he was

need to find married accommodation. Ironically, in his first at-tempt at the Diploma in Psychological Medicine, he was failed in the clinical examination by Sir Aubrey Lewis, who was later to play a

significant part in his profes-

sional life.

At Barrow Hospital, Bristol, he found a more stimulating scientific atmosphere an wrote his MD thesis on the ecology of mental hospitals. with its effects on patients. This environmental interest led to studies in the distribution of cases of schizophrenia in the city, in which he showed that these were relatively more frequent in the run-down central areas.

Here he confirmed research that had been done in Chicago just before the Second World War. But, whereas the Americans had a whole research team, Hare did all the work himself --- as indeed he continued to do throughout his

From Bristol, Hare moved



to Warlingham Park, Croydon, where he received a summons from Aubrey Lewis, advising him to apply for a consultant vacancy at the Bethlem-Maudsley Hospitals and indicating that the professor's recommendation was generally accepted. Lewis had been impressed by the Bristol

the only project for which Hare received any real support was a comparison of the mental health of residents of a new housing estate in Croydon with an older area. This study, done with G. K. Shaw, concluded that there was no major difference between living in the two environments, though the people in the new estate had rather

research, but the post had

large clinical commitments;

better physical health. Hare's historical interests led him first to study the emergence in the medical literature of syphilitic demen-tia. He found that the first clear description of the disorder was in the early 19th century, and he concluded that, if it had existed earlier, it

would have been unlikely to

have escaped description. He did similar work on schizophrenia and manie-depressive psychosis, and also investigated the "season of birth" effect in schizophrenia whereby 10 per cent more cases than expected were born in the winter months. One of his most impressive lectures. which was never published. was on Michael Faraday's memory problems in later life. All this work was done unobtrusively, nearly always sin-gle-handed, and with great meticulousness and determin-

In 1973 Hare succeeded

Eliot Slater as Editor of the British Journal of Psychiatry. He developed the iournal's high scientific standards and paid attention, for the first time, to its finances, discovering that the advertising was actually losing money. Although as a clinician he

had relatively little interest in neurosis and was hostile to psychotherapy, he did not allow these personal views to influence the choice of papers for the Journal. He was widely respected for his erudition, his wide cultural background and his application of epidemiological principles to clinical topics. His analysis of questions was always cogent and intellectually rigorous. He played a conscientious role in the life of the Bethlem-Maudsley Hospitals, including chairmanship of the medical committee.

After his retirement in 1982 Hare pursued his extensive reading and became fascinated by computer technology; he was a competent planist and a skilful rugmaker and needle-Worker.

His first wife died but he is survived by a daughter of that marriage. Anna, who is a general practitioner. His second marriage ended in divorce. But in his later years he enjoyed great happiness with his third wife. Fiby, who had been a nursing sister and who also survives him.

GALLIPOLI. ON THIS DAY The following official communique was issued last night:

General Sir Charles Monro reports that the complete evacuation of the Gallipoli Peninsula has now been successfully carried out. All guns and howitzers were got away, with the exception of 17 worn-out guns which were

blown up by us before leaving.
Our casualties amounted to one British rank and file wounded. There were no casualties among the French troops . . .

THE ACHI BABA BARRIER. A MEMORY OF THE GREAT LANDING. Helles was the first and last position on the

Gallipoli Peninsula to be held by British troops. It was there, nearly nine months ago, that the great landing took place under cover of the guns of the Fleet, in which battalion after battalion of British troops, advancing against prepared Turkish positions, was swept by shell and bullet, yet clung on to the narrow rim of beach and rock and refused to give way. After ten days' fighting and an advance which was counted by yards, our losses, inclusive of the troops at Anzac but exclusive of the French, were 177 officers and 1.990 other ranks killed, 412 officers and 7.087 other ranks wounded, and 13 officers and

## January 10, 1916

W District

Fortunately the evacuation of Gallipoli displayed none of the miscalculations and inefficiency which bungled the landings in April 1915.

3,580 other ranks missing. Of the many glorious incidents of this first onslaught one may recall that of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, holding their own opposite Krithia against masses of Turks until they were almost overwhelmed; of the beaching of the transport River Clyde, and the advance of one company after another of the Munster Fusiliers to death; of the storming of Sedd-el-Bahr, when Colonel Doughty-Wylie and Captain Walford were killed; and, lastly, the daring of the Lancashire Fusiliers whose assault of the Turkish trenches near Cape Tekko from open boats under a terrific fire was described as the finest feat of arms ever

achieved by British or any other soldiers. But bravery was of no avail. A few miles from Cape Helles was the height of Achi Baba, which the Turks, taking advantage of the long delay in making a landing, had turned into a fortress which proved impregnable. Its scored and wooded slopes ran down towards Helles and athwart its base the Turks had prepared position after position in the ravines centring on the village of Krithia. Practically the whole of the operations since the landing have been assaults on this Krithia line. Battle after battle has been fought, in which the losses have been heavy on both sides, and in which generally the gains on either side have been very few yards. In July and August the situation altered, and the Krithia lighting became subsidiary to the attempt to turn the Turkish positions from Anzac and Suvia Bay. The failure of this attack, and the subsequent withdrawals from Anzac and Suvia on December 19-20, are fresh in the memory.

The cost of the Gallipoli operations in addition to the naval losses, and the sick up to December 9, were given in the House of Commons. They were:-Officers: Killed 1,667, wounded 3,028, missing

350, total 5,045 Other ranks: Killed 24,535, wounded 72,781, missing 12,194, total 109,510.



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#### **NEWS**

#### Rescued sailor 'in absolute heaven'

■ Tony Bullimore was in "absolute heaven" on board an Australian frigate after one of the greatest personal survival feats in maritime history.

The British lone sailor had spent nearly five days in an air pocket in the upturned hull of his yacht before being pulled from the Southern Ocean. He had lost the tip of his left little finger and was suffering from minor hypothermia. dehydration and frostbite - but medical staff aboard HMAS Adelaide said that he was relatively unscathed.......Pages i, 2, 3

#### Private schools' marks wrongly upgraded

A team of examiners raised the scores of some independent school candidates in last summer's English A level by up to two grades without looking at the papers, said an unprecedented public report by scrutineers...

#### Pound surges

The pound rose to its highest level for four years as investors responded to the dramatic gap opening up between the British economy and those of the .. Page i

#### By-election gamble

John Major has opted for the high-risk strategy of holding a byelection in Wirral South which could nut the Tortes into a minority administration weeks before

#### Oxford rethink

Oxford University has abandoned its controversial plan to site a £40 million business school on a sports ground in the city ... Page 5

#### Mother accuses

The mother of six-year-old Rikki Neave, who was found strangled near his home after she neglected him for years, blamed social workers for failing to answer her call for help...

#### Branson tries again Richard Branson flew home and

revealed that he will return to Morocco for a third bid to circumnavigate the globe in a ..Page 7

#### New CJD test

Scientists say they have a simple test to give early diagnosis of the new strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, which is linked to eating ..... Page 7

#### **BBC** attacked

Sir Paul McCartney attacked the BBC for trying to make The Beatles look like "widow-beaters" in an acrimonious dispute over the ownership of lyrics he wrote 30 years ago... .....Page 10

#### Election trail

John Major blazed the election trail 5,000 miles from home when he used a speech in Calcutta to make a pitch for the Asian vote in Britain

#### Scientology stars

Dustin Hoffman, Goldie Hawn and other Hollywood stars joined forces with top film producers. directors and writers to attack German discrimination against Scientologists ..... .... Page 13

#### No to euro vote

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, ruled out the possibility of a referendum on economic and monetary union although threequarters of Germans say they

#### Dangerous hormones State pharmaceutical officials in France distributed growth hor-

mones to children that could cause the Creuztfeldt-Jakob disease, said a magazine ..... Page 15 Strikers attacked

Korean police raided the headquarters of striking trade unionists and were poised for an attempt to remove other leaders from a cathedral.....

#### Keeping warm at cold comfort zoo

For the penguins and the wolves, it is like home from home. But the snowy wastes of London Zoo are proving less than hospitable for some of the species from warmer climes. As temperatures remained at freezing point, keepers were at full stretch to keep up the spirits and keep warm the bodies of inmates like the Asian lions, Kamal and Ruchi ........... Page 5



Traffic crawls along the icy road link between north Kent and the Isle of Sheppey yesterday. Boy dies in pond, page 1

#### BUSINESS.

Lloyd's: The insurance market is expected to announce profits of more than (1) hillion for the secondyear running. Profits are expected to hold up well for the next few

Warning: Shares in Sears fell after the store group that owns Selfridges told the stockmarket that profits for the year would be well below the previous figure of £100 ...Page 25

Marks & Spencer is to acquire the Gyle Shopping Centre in Edinburgh from the City Council for ..Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 0.5 to 4087.0. Sterling's index rose from 96.1 to 96.6 after rises from \$1.6881 to \$1.6935 and from DM2.6539 to

#### Footbalk Bobby Robson, who recently started a two-year contract with Barcelona, emerged as favourite to succeed Kevin Keegan as Newcastle manager ...... Page 48

SPORT

Rugby union: Brian Ashton, who resigned from the English champions Bath earlier in the week, was appointed coach of Ireland in succession to Murray Kidd ... Page 48 Motor racing: Damon Hill described the Arrows Yamaha Al8 car he will drive in the coming

season as "a sexy little number when it was launched in Birmingham -Tonnis: Tim Henman reached the semi-finals of the Sydney International tournament with a three-set

United States.

victory over Alex O'Brien, of the

#### Grey pop power: David Sinclair says the attention paid to David Bowie's 50th birthday merely confirms the musical contribution of mature rockers ....

Treesure chest: As some of the 100,000 works saved for the nation go on show, Richard Cork looks at the achievements of the National Art Collections Fund........Page 35

Rich man, poor man: Wallace Shawn's play The Fever tugs at liberal consciences through Clare Counter's performance of the nice woman tormented by images of Page 35

aling wounds: World music band Tarika stir up controversy and mark a grim African anniversary with a hauntingly beautiful

#### TONOTHE WAS A

WEEKEND The allure of Spain: from Pampiona to the Costa Brava. Marbella and Majorca

Bavarian Rhapsody: frills and military-style: greatcoats :

Valerie Grove interviews Alice Oswald, up against stiff opposition on : the shortlist of the T.S. Eliot Prize for the best new collection of poetry this year.... Controversial figure: This has in many ways been the German century and Ernst Jünger, now 101, has helped to call its time... Page 19

Healing power of plants: Prescribed correctly, homeopathic remedies can aiter the way the body uses food, helping it to assimi-Page 17

Children first: The future of the Assisted Places Scheme hangs in the balance... Page 39 Own gook is it prejudice that can keep soccer off the syllabus of many independent schools?.......Page 39 Suey people: Managers cannot spare the time to go to business schools, so many schools are offering executive courses ...... Page 39

#### The Anterior street stirt payment

community. The often moralising discourse of America would find itself deprived of a good measure of - Le Monde.

Calman's perceptive comedy, Dressing For Breakfast, begins (Channel, 4. 4, 9.00pm) Review: Matthew Bond on a Watchdog special ..... Page 47

Elephant among tigers It is because India is such a different country today that Mr Major's journey is timely, his time well ....Page 21 spent.

#### Toon and city

Newcastle United's strip may be black and white, but this story is not as clear-cut as the club's fans

#### may believe .... Heroes of the deep

Effortless failure, characterised by smicism, understatement and a refusal to blame others, is admired almost more than effortless . Page 21

#### BERNARD LEVIN

If fewer and fewer plays turn up and I mean plays for which it is 🔞 worth getting out of an armchair), it will be not a nuisance but a great hole in the fabric of our land. We can live without the theatre, of course, but I fear that if it withers

and dies, nothing will bring it back

#### to life... MICHAEL GOVE

Actors as distinguished as Dustin Hoffman and producers as powerful as Aaron Spelling have allowed their reputations to be demeaned by endorsing the unequal equation of anti-Semitism and opposition to Scientology..... PHILIP HOWARD

The British have always been ambivalent about see savages. Under our mongrei skin we are a piratical race. After the Romans, the three tidal waves of invaders who made Britain were pirates: Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Normans (Vikings come to roost)...... Page 20

#### Brigadier Maurice MacWilliam:

Sir John Stocker, former Lord Justice of Appeal: Dr Edward Hare,

monarchy debate; screen test for Holhwood Lovers: English National Opera; Project 2000; combating dementia; Australian visas; Peter the Great ...

Sunny

Sunny Interval

Cloudy

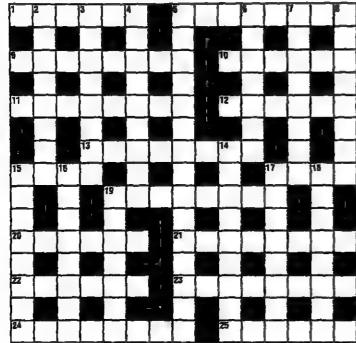
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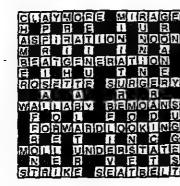
Rain

#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,373



- 1 Change design of screw around
- 5 Female gets correct cow (8). 9 Second dish in messy spread (8). 10 Tribute paid after death of York-
- shire writer (6). 11 Careless hit-and-run (S).
- 12 Sew up American girth split by extra pound (6). 13 Flying bomb comes within an
- 101a, somehow, of flying (S). 15 Sound of exposed brook (4).
- 17 List some of the elements (4).
- 19 In the past, following sound lead
- 20 Finishes off what the banks
- control to grow rich (b). 21 Look for murderers (S).
- 22 Agree it's sufficient to drop ad (6).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,372



- 23 Home Heft before a year that's an injustice (3).
- 24 Lied translated into our equivalent indirectly (S).
- 25 German writer follows essay with English article (6).

- 2 Shot almost lands in river one's
- 3 Cut down, tree seen to come up again (S).

been fired (S).

hand case (S).

- 4 Robin Houd robbed so enthusias tically (4.1.4).
- 5 I might not be free to take new order at present (3.3.4.5). 6 Troublemaker effects change of leadership in foreign government
- 7 Absurdly alterine figure (8). S Lunatic - he will constitute a
- 14 New organ isn't under control (2.1.6). 15 Support from nanny, might one
- think? (3). 16 Versatile new drivers used in a game of guil (3-5).
- 17 Delicate weed seen in large numbers? On the contrary (S). 18 Weird desire suppressed by churchman, lacking some energy
- 19 Crucial note to bigwig held up (7).

Times Two Crossword, page 44



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#### IN THE TIMES

in fashion with flounces.

FORE CAST STATE OF THE STATE OF Isle of Men, Central N England: Manly dry, some bright, perhaps surny, intervals. Wind mainly east or southeast, light to moderate. Cold. Max 1C or 2C (34F to 36F).

☐ Sordera, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orioney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, some light wintry showers at times. Wind southeasterly, light to moderate. Cold. Max 1C (34F). Scotland and Northern Ireland will be rather cold, klainly dry with some bright or sunny intervals, these mostly land and the Northern Isles might have the odd waitry shower. Windier NW Scotland: Dry, some bright or surry intervals. Becoming clouder tater Wind southeasterly light to moderate, increasing fresh later. Cold. Max 2C to 4C (36F to 39F). conditions with rain and snow mich

Landon, SE England, E Anglis, E England, NE England. NE England: Apart from the odd right snow florry, most places should be dry with some bright intervals. Wind mainly east or southeast, light to moderate. Cold Max 1C Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake District,

[] General: England and Wales will be cold again. It will be mainly dry but

rather cloudy, and there may be some

light wintry showers around, es-pecially in eastern England. The far west might have thicker cloud later in

the day, and it will also become breezy there.

reach Northern Ireland by mednight.

mostly dry. Rain or sleet in the evening Wind southeasterly, mod-

DN Ireland: Rather cloudy but

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☐ Outlook for the weekend: Rain and snow in the northwest, becoming mainly dry on Sunday, Milder.

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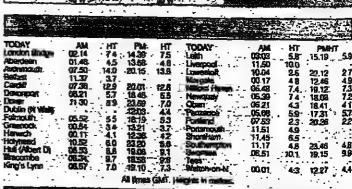
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Sea conditions Changes to chart below from noon; high G loses its identity. Low F heads north, fitting, Lowe E and Z fill in situ. Low A and G should amalgamate, later tilling as they spread north





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FRIDAY JANUARY



#### **ECONOMICS**

Anatole Kaletsky on the outlook for 1997 PAGE 29



#### arts

How Van Dyck's little princesses stayed British **PAGES 34-36** 



#### SPORT

Hill aims to please in new Arrows **PAGES 40-48**  TELEVISION AND RADIO

**PAGES** 

46, 47

FRIDAY JANUARY 10 1997

#### **BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook**

## Merrett will not work in Lloyd's again after £1m deal

operations director. He be-

came chief executive in 1992

and last year received pay of

£445,000, including a performance bonus of £52,000. He is

on a two-year rolling contract. Criticism of his inability to draw a respectable financial

performance from Sears esca-

lated after the sale of the

Hinchliffe's Pacia group

coup's shoe shops to Stephen

When Facia collapsed last

year, the shop leases reverted

to Sears. The only known buyer of Sears' shares in

recent weeks has been Philips

which has now built up a stake

is most likely to be broken up,

with a bid from a property

company thought possible.

They estimate a break-up val-

ue of around 110p per share.

analyst with NatWest Mar-kets, said: "British Shoe is a

horrible disincentive to any-

one who might buy the Sears

Sears is expected to announce the sale to Littlewoods

of its Freemans mail order

arm for around £350 million

early next week.

The only factor holding up
Sears' shares, which fell 4p to

87'2p yesterday, is the pros-pect of a special dividend from

the Freemans' sale, analysts

Sears said that sales at

Analysts believe that Sears

Drew Fund Manageme

of around 12 per cent.

BY JON ASHWORTH

STEPHEN MERRETT, the former Lloyd's of London deputy chairman. who was accused of "negligence, incompetence and dereliction of duty" in a High Court case two years ago, is to pay £1 million in damages, and will never work at Lloyd's again. Mr Merrett, once one of Lloyd's

most powerful underwriters, has struck a deal with Lloyd's, in return for protection from future legal

action. Major Ronald Ferguson, father of the Duchess of York, and Adam Faith, the actor-singer, are £300 million on Merrett Syndicate 408. The £1 million will be paid to the 1,900-strong Merrett Syndicate 418 (1985) Names' Association.

Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney General, and Sir Rocco Forte, the hotelier, are among other names involved. Under the deal, the Merrett underwriting agencies have agreed to pay about 62.2 million to the £225 million contributed by underwriters to the Lloyd's settlement. Mr Merrett will not, at any time, be a director, employee or shareholder of any company in the Lloyd's market. He will become a party to the settlement - protecting him from future lawsuits from names - but will receive no debt

Lloyd's has agreed to drop its inquiry into Mr Merrett. The ulti-

finality bill.

and a self-imposed ban on working in the market is unlikely to have been matched by any disciplinary tribunal. Mr Merrett resigned as deputy chairman of Lloyd's in September 1993, after intense pressure from senior figures in the insurance industry. The Merren names saw their efforts rewarded in November 1995, when they were swarded landmark damages in the

ing judge, expressed "serious reservations" about Mr Merrett's approach as an underwriter, in a damning 640-page judgment. Mr Merrett, he said, gave inadequate time and attention to his duties, and was "unconvincing" in his evidence in court. The judge was equally critical of Ernst & Young, which was deemed negligent in its role as auditor to the Merrett syndicate.

The Merrett deal must still be ratified by the Council of Lloyd's and the board of Equitas. John action group, said: "I'm pleased that we've drawn a line under the litigation, and that there is a benefit

Mr Merrett was formerly one of Lloyd's most powerful underwriters. He joined the business built up by his father. Roy, in 1963, and became chairman of Merrett Group

> Elba profit, page 26 Pennington, page 27

## Sears warning puts Strong job at risk

LIAM STRONG, chief executive of Sears, is facing intense pressure from institutional shareholders to quit after the Selfridges to British Shoe retail group yesterday issued a profit warning and revealed abysmal trading figures for the

. It is thought that Mr Strong may be forced out within the next few days.

. The company said that sales at shops open throughout the second half of its financial year had risen only I per cent, and had theredipped to 0.5 per cent below last year's level in the crucial Christmas period. It said that pre-tax profits for the year to January 6 would be significantly below last year's El00 million

One fund manager said yesterday: "We are fed up with it, it has been going on too long. Strong is being well-rewarded to do a good job, and he isn't doing it."

Another leading institution-

al shareholder said: "It is

has been there five years. which is a reasonable amount of time for it to work. It is the job of the chairman to sort it out and I'd expect him to do so. The problem might be finding someone to replace him."

Sears insists that Mr Strong retains the backing of the board and of Sir Bob Reid, the chairman. A spokeswoman said that he would not be leaving the company.

However, one leading ana-

lyst noted: "Kevin Keegan kept on saying he wasn't leaving, until he did. Strong has got to / impossible for him to stay." He said he expects Mr Strong to leave in the next few days. 'Advisers and non-executive directors have got to pass on the message from investors,"

Mr Strong joined Sears in 1991 from British Airways, where he was marketing and



Liam Strong is backed by the board but not institutions

## Christmas trade short of retailers' hopes, says CBI

CHRISTMAS tracing failed to reach most retailers' expecta-tions, according to a Confederation of British Industry survey out today. The survey will dampen lears that Britain is in the midst of an unsustainable

Eighties-style consumer boom.
The findings are expected to
be used by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to argue against a rise in interest rates next Wednesday, when he meets Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England. How-ever, the City believes that at best Mr Clarke may be able to postpone a rise until February.

and the Bank is still expected to push for an immediate move. Figures from the British Retail Consortium, out next Tuesday, will be watched for firm evidence of the sector's.

The CBI's distributive trades survey for December shows that the growth in sales volumes slowed compared with the previous six months and is "substantially" lower than predictions made in November. While sales volumes -were well above those of a year ago, with about half of retailers reporting increased sales,

19 per cent said that sales were down. Most retailers expect sales to be steady in January.

City followers reduced their forecasts for full-year pre-tax earnings from more than £100 million to around £80 million. Alastair Eperon, chairman of the CBI panel responsible British Shoe were down 2.8 retailers had a good Christper cent in the second half. Freemans sales were down 6.5 per cent, while at Selfridges mas. The slowdown in the rate of sales growth reflects a they increased 8.2 per cent, major iump a year ago, so the increase in trade was meabelow expectations. sured from a high base." improvements at the Wallis,

Highest volume increases were enjoyed by booksellers. pet, hardware and china experienced a slowdown.

stationers and food sellers. Footwear, DIY, furniture, car-

However, Sears did see

Warehouse, Richards and Miss Selfridge womenswear



Maria Holton, of Thorn Lighting won honours for her expertise as an engineer

## Holton lights the way for women engineers

BY OUR BUSINESS STAFF

MARIA HOLTON was yesterday named 1996 Young Woman Engineer of The Year. Ms Holton, 29, is a major project engineer with Thorn Lighting at Romford,

The award is sponsored by the Institution of Electronics and Electrical Incorporated Engineers (IEEIE) and the Caroline Haslett Memorial Trust. It aims to highlight the growing role of women in the

engineering industry and to recruits

Diane Delaney, 22, from Oldham, Lancashire, was winner of the Mary George Memorial Prize. Ms Delaney is a test engineer with MEM 250v, where her responsibilities include the testing of new and existing products and the calibration of equipment and instrum-

## Powerful pound swells corporate casualty list

By Eric Reguly and Janet Bush

STERLING'S upward march claimed British Steel, Imperial Chemical, BOC Group and Burmah Castrol as its latest corporate casualties and analysis warned that the barrage of earnings downgrades and leading stock market companies this week is expected to

Market strategists said the ratings of any company with significant overseas operations is under threat. Steve Wright, of BZW, the securities firm. said: "There are more to come and, in some case, they will be massive downgrades."

The City began to revise its carnings forecasts in November when the pound's rise has already begun to steepen dramatically — but what had been a trickle has turned into a flood. Even as British companies started to acknowledge the damage that sterling's rise is wreaking on their bottom lines, the pound rose even

96.6 on its effective index against a basket of currencies its highest level for four

It closed on Wednesday at 96.1, which was also the level at which it ended 1996. This was 15.6 per cent higher than at the end of 1995. During the course of last year, the pound soared 24 per cent against the yen, 18.7 per cent against the

mark, 16.9 per cent against the French franc and even 10.3 per cent against a resurgent

Many economists believe that the pound is likely to continue its climb, buoyed by relatively strong economic growth, accompanied by highor inversel rates.

Companies with large foreign sales whose costs are of its costs in America.

further yesterday. It ended at largely in sterling will fare worse. Analysts said British Steel's exports, especially to continental Europe, could be severely hit. About 40 per cent of sales are made outside the

> Merrill Lynch, SocGen and NatWest Securities all downgraded their earnings forecasts for British Steel yesterday. Merrill Lynch was the most bearish, slashing its prediction for British Steel's 997-98 financial year from £650 million to £280 million.

For large pharmaceutical companies, downgrades will hit headline profits but will have little effect on the operational level. Their drug products are usually produced in the countries in which they are sold, so currency fluctuations have virtually no effect on prices and their ability to compete. Smithkline Beecham, for example, has 42 per cent of its sales and 42 per cent

#### **BUSINESS** TODAY

#### STOCK MARKET

INDICES			
SE 100	4087.0 (-0.5) 3.81%		
še alisham	2008.15 (-1.29) 18073.87 (-606.51)		
w York: w Jones	6619.90 (+70 42)*		
P Composito	754.97 (+5.86)°		

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London close ..... \$355.65 (\$355.75)

#### Lloyd's profit

C : GOLD

The Lloyd's of London insurance market is expected to announce profits of more than El billion for the secondyear running. Profits are the next few years despite failing rates and fears of over capacity in the insurance

#### On the defensive

General Motors has received bids of around \$9 billion for Hughes Electronics, its defence arm, from both Raytheon and Northrop Grumman.

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M&S shopping for property MARKS & SPENCER is set to buy the shopping centre did become a landlord on main not imply that it intended to land Britain for the first time by buying one of Edinburgh's lt has agreed to buy the Gyle Shopping Centre in Edinburgh from the city council for £122 million, it revealed The 300,000 sq ft complex.

which is close to Edinburgh airport and was opened just four years ago, will be the first shopping centre to be awned by Marks & Spencer on the British mainland. The only Marks & Spencer said it had

taken up the option to buy the centre once the city council decided to sell because it wants to expand and reorganise its own store at the centre, which currently occupies

A spokesman for Marks &

become a big player in retail property: "It is a one-off deal to secure our own interests," the comapny said. Marks & Spencer prefers to own the freehold on its shops

and so already owns much of the property it occupies. However, many of the shopping centres that have been built in recent years have been handled by developers, meaning that stores operating from them have not been able to own the freehold.

The other main occupier of other shopping centre that its The other main occupier of owns is Sprucefield, in North the Gyle centre is a Safeway supermarket, in all, there are 65 tenants of the centre, which attracts some 300,000 visitors

Edinburgh City Council said it had decided to sell the centre because it wanted to raise funds to spend on education and transport

#### SFO fines Kleinwort - Benson

THE securities arm of Kleinwort Benson has been fined £30,000 with costs of £7,900 and two of its former traders reprimanded by the Securities and Futures Authority for rule breaches (Robert Miller writes).

The SFA said Kleinwort had admitted that between July and September 1995 Alistair Truelove, a manager and trader in European convertible notes and warrants. breached City and in-house rules on marking positions on certain trades. He was also fined £7,500 with costs of £3,000. His assistant, Philip Steel, paid £2,000 in costs.

The SFA also said that Meville lpc, an ex-employee of Merrill Lynch International Bank, was fined £7,500 for putting a private client in an insuitable investment that incurred a \$47,270 loss. Full compensation was paid.

Tanvier Malik, another Merrili Lynch employee, was fined £15,000 for failing to

## Lloyd's expected to top £1bn for second year

By Jon Ashworth

LLOYD'S of London is expected to announce profits of more than El billion for the second year running this summer. And profits are expected to hold up well for the next few years. in spite of falling rates, and fears of

over capacity in the insurance market. Profits for the 1994 underwriting year are estimated at £1.18 billion, according to Chatset, the insurance analyst Lloyd's made a profit of \$1.084

billion in 1993 - a sharp reversal on the £1.2 billion loss of 1992. Rates were high in 1993, and there were few of the catastrophes that dogged the market in the late 1980s.

Lloyd's, which has previously forecast 1994 profits of £1.008 billion, is due to publish the precise numbers in May or June. Figures are published three years in arrears. Chatset forecasts bottom-line profits of more than El billion for 1994, £850 million for 1995, and 5600 million for 1996.

Of the individual markets, marine has performed exceptionally well in 1994 and 1995, and the anticipated profit in 1996 is above average. Nonmarine has also done well, and aviation should produce a respectable profit in each year. The area of weakness is motor. Chatset has downgraded its profit forecast for 1994 from £109 million to £57 million. In 1995, motor is expected to show a loss of £12 million, compared with a forecast of 567 million.

Chatset said corporate capital's presence at Lloyd's had increased from 30 to 44 per cent in the past two years, oromoting concerns about over-capacity. Chatset said: "With all sections of the market suffering from weakening rates, the last thing it needs is over capacity and a scramble amongst underwriters for business. The futher influx of corporate capacity would appear to be completely unjustified." Capacity at Lloyd's is expected to increase by 3.3 per cent to £10.32

billion in 1997. Just over half - £5.78 hillion - will be provided by 9.972 individual names.

Lloyd's has been licensed to transact business in Japan's domestic insurance market for the first time in the deregulation of the Japanese insurance market. Sir David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, will officially launch Lloyd's Japan Inc at a ceremony in Tokyo in March.

Pennington, page Z7

## Mortgage lending reaches 7-year high

By ROBERT MILLER

billion.

over the next three years.

bank found that one in six

people, or 18 per cent, are looking for a new home but

only 8 per cent, or one in 13, is

prepared to put their home on the market.

in regional terms, home-

owners in London and the

South East are most likely to

put their homes on the market,

reflecting the area's increase

in house prices last year, said the bank. The least confident

homeowners in terms of house

price expectations come from

Yorkshire and Humberside.

Jim Chadwick, a director of

Barclays Mortgages, said:

was a good year for the

housing market and we expect

the recovery to continue. Al-

though further growth is un-

likely to be at the high levels of

the last few months, large annual increases of up to 30

per cent are not really sustain-

able or desirable in the long

As far as the immediate

future was concerned, Mr

Chadwick said that "uncer-

There is no doubt that 1996

according to the survey.

THE housing market re-ceived a further filip yesterday with news from Barclays that mortgage lending has reached its high-

est level for seven years. Barclays said that its latest Mortgage Index shows the value of gross mortgage advances in December 24 per cent up on the same month in 1995. Total gross lending for last year as a whole is expected to reach E71 million — the highest since 1990. The bank said that last year's figure is 32 per cent higher than that in

#### Pledge to wind-up Exmoor

EXMOOR DUAL the split capital investment trust could be the subject of a new bid after the board's announcement that it will propose early liquidation if supported at an extraordinary meeting on February 3.

Analysis said that the door was "wide open": even after taking 3 per cent liquidation costs into account, the £18.2 million trust will still stand at a 13.7 per cent discount to net asset value. This could tempt an outside manager to buy out Panther Securities, which has 29.9 per cent of the trust's voting shares. Panther is seeking to oust the board and convert Exmoor into a

property fund. Liquidation could give ordinary shareholders 1612p and income shareholders 62.2p. Panther's

offer was 9p and 36p.



Tony Fraher, left, with Alan Hansen, who will be acting as consultant to the fund

#### **Football** fund kicks off amid doubts

BY ADAM JONES

THE first fund investing solely in football clubs and associated companies was launched yesterday amid scepticism about the liquidity of the

Section. The Football Fund, run by Singer & Friedlander, is aiming to raise about £30 million initially. Tony Fraher, chief executive of Singer & Friedlander Investment Funds, claimed it was possible that the fund, an openended investment compan fund recognised by the SIB. could grow as large as £200 million. However, there is scepticism over the ability of the sector to support an invest-ment vehicle of this size.

The fund is employing Alan. Hansen, the Match of the Day pundit, as a consultant on a three-year contract. He will analyse performance on the pitch, since league pos-ition affects a club's share price. Mr Hansen will also assess youth development policies - a good one can

provide cheap players.

One broker said illiquidity in shares of unquoted clubs several trade on Ofex — made buying and selling difficult. Initially, the Football Fund

will concentrate on footballrelated shares, including JJB Sports, Nike, BSkyB and construction companies involved in stadium building. British clubs will eventually account for 45 to 55 per cent of the fund; European club shares, such as Juvenius, will also be held. The minimum

figure sum. He was not avail-able for comment.

which conducted the review mended a wait of three leaving the Government.

## Second energy sector role for Eggar

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

TIM EGGAR, the former Energy Minister, vesterday took on his second role at a company in the energy industry less than six months after leaving the Government.

tainty about interest rates and the general election are unlikely to dampen demand significantly, but will probably His appointment as a nonexecutive director at Monu-ment Oil drew sharp criticism from Labour. It continue to attract homebuyers to fixed-rate mortuages

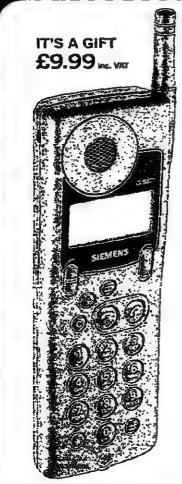
follows his appointment in November as part-time chair-man of MW Kellogg, an engineering business that gets much of its work in the energy

> John Battle, Labour's spokesman on energy, said that although within the law the move raised questions about the desirability of exministers moving to jubs in

which they had dealt. Mr Eggar, who is leaving Parliament at the election, will have special responsibilities at Monument for overseas interests. He is expected to be remunerated above the typical rate for a non-executive director at Monument of £15,000. His pay for Kellogg was tipped as a substantial six-

into public standards, recommonths before Cabinet ministers should take up commercial appointments after

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#### Compass lifts board bonuses

COMPASS GROUP, the contract catering company, awarded its directors total bonuses of £634.000 last year. up from £536.000 in the previous 12 months (Martin Bar-

row writes). The rise in bonus payments followed a 50.1 per cent rise in profits before tax and exceptional items to £114.3 million in

the 12 months to September 30. Total directors' remuneration increased to £2.7 million from £2.1 million previously. The latest total included salaries and honuses paid to three directors who joined the board during the course of the previous year. The remuneration of Francis Mackay, chief executive, was £556,000, including a bonus of £!05,000, and was little changed from £559,000 previously.

THE Home Office has warned the public not to send money

called The Territorian Lottery this week mailed British homes, congratulating people for having a chance to share in an EIS million tax-free prize fund. The mailshot, postmarked Budapest, high-lights seductive phrases such as: "You are the jackpot winner and are now a multimillionaire. it contains sonorous but empty state-ments including: "Be duly ments including: informed that the following has been approved unani-mously by The Board and is

to overseas companies pur-

An Australian organisation

porting to run lotteries.

fully guaranteed." It soon becomes clear that to

lottery mailshot

Warning after

claim your "wirmings" it is necessary to send E5 to a post office box number in Australia. No other address is given. The Home Office said it is

against the law to promote or advertise an overseas lottery within the UK. Although not vet tested in the courts. mailshors such as Territorian's would seem to be covered by this prohibition, part of the 1976 Loueries & Amusements Act.
The Home Office has come

across similar lotteries but it has proved difficult to take action because they are outside British jurisdiction. Territorian's mailshot carries pictures of winners, each of whom is said to have received El million. None is named.

#### End in sight for VW dispute with Opel

THE long-running dispute between Volkswagen and Opel, General Motor's German subsidiary, is close to a resolution. An out-of-court settlement over claims that VW spied on Opel could be announced today. VW said: "It is possible that an announcement will be made. Not all the details are finalised. An agreement is very close to being worked out."

According to the Handelsblatt newspaper, Klaus Liesen, the VW supervisory board chairman, and John Smale, GM's executive chairman, reached an agreement to settle the dispute. Under the terms of the settlement, VW will buy components from GM on a long-term basis and will shoulder a large part of GM's legal expenses. In return, GM will drop its US civil suit for damages against VW. Demands for an apology from VW have apparently also been dropped. The three year old dispute centres on accusations that Jose Ignacio López de Arriortua, VW's purchasing manager, was involved in industrial espionage when he left GM for VW.

#### French go-ahead for BA

BRITISH AIRWAYS yesterday won court approval to acquire Air Liberte, the insolvent carrier, and expand its presence in the French air travel market to more than 20 per cent. Dominique Leveque, president of the Creteil commercial court, said the court agreed to the plan presented by BA and Banque Rivaud, its French partner, to take control of Air Liberté and invest Fr780 million. Although the French industry and Government were initially refuctant to allow Air Liberté to fall into foreign hands, M Leveque said there was no "acceptable alternative plan".

#### New structure at AIB

AlB, the Irish banking group, has formed a new holding company for AIB investment Managers and John Govett & Co. two investment management firms AIB acquired in December 1995. AIB Asset Management Holdings will be headed by Kevin Pakenham, who will remain chief executive of John Govett, Patrick Cunneen, managing director of AIB Investment Managers, becomes vice-chairman. Mr Pakenham said the new company would enable the two businesses to cooperate globally. In the UK the two retail businesses have been combined and renamed Govett-Unit Trusts.

#### US wholesale surge

WHOLESALE prices in America recorded their biggest increase all year in December, as surging energy prices offset an otherwise calm inflation report. The US Labour Department said the producer price index advanced 0.5 per cent, after rising 0.4 per cent in November. The December rise was the biggest since December 1995's gain of 0.6 per cent. However, excluding food and energy prices, the core rate of inflation rose only 0.1 per cent, matching November's rise. Economists had forecast a 0.3 per cent increase in wholesale prices overall and a 0.1 per cent rise in the core rate.

#### Toy Options wins deal

TOY OPTIONS, the toy distribution and marketing company, yesterday won a licensing contract from the European consumer products division of Warner Bros. the Hollywood film studio, to design, manufacture and market toy watches and clocks in 35 countries. The moulded products will be based on animated Warner characters such as Superman and Baiman. The contract Kong company that was bought by Toy Options for \$1.6

#### Goode in higher gear

THE decline in vehicle hire rates has bottomed out, according to Goode Durrant, the fast-growing car and van restal company, that reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £15.2 million £13.4 million) in the half year to October 31. Earnings were 18.5p a share (16.3p) resulting in an interim dividend of 3.20 (2.80): Michael Waring, chairman, said the recovery in the housing marker was helping trading conditions and should set the scene for a record set of full-year results. Goode Durrant shares gained 95 p to close at 418 p.

#### Scholl sells Septivon

SCHOLL, the healthcare company that is selling non-core assets to concentrate on its footcare and footwear brands. yesterday sold Septivon, its amiseptic cleansing product, to Chelaro International of France for about £13.9 million. Septivon, which represented 10.8 per cent of Scholl's operating profits in 1995, was sold for the same price for which it was acquired in 1993. Scholl said that it is in negotiations to sell Laboratoires Valdor, a cosmetics

#### Contract boosts BNFL

BNFL, the nuclear waste group, extended its international drive yesterday after the award of a £650 million US contract to a consortium ied by BNFL's American division. The contract is for the designing, building and operating of a wasse-treatment facility at a former weapons research and design site in Idaho. BNFL will use some technologies developed at Sellafield on the project, while its engineering subsidiary will work on the robotics needed for the

#### Northern board changes

NORTHERN ELECTRIC, the regional electricity company, has made the first changes in board structure after its takeover by CE Electric of the US, bringing in eight new directors. David Sokol, chairman and chief executive of CalEnergy, CE Energy's parent company, is among the new names. John Grieves, a director since October 1, 1996, has resigned, the UK electricity firm said. CE Electric paid £651 million for Northern, based in Newcastle, after narrowly winning a tightly-lought and controversial takenver battle.

PIA rules help to cut investment costs by 3.9%

## Disclosure forces fall in fees

TOUGH new rules requiring companies to reveal their SMS send and receive management fees have led to a drop in overall charges. according to a report (Mari-

anne Curpbey writes). However, investors with a hìgh-charging company could still pay five times as much as the clients of companies with

much lower charges. The regulations, known as disclusure, were introduced in the wake of the pensions misselling scandal and forced financial services companies to make their charges clearer and more comprehensible.

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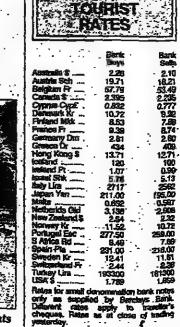
In its second annual report. the Personal Investment Authority (PLA), of which Colette Bowe is chief executive, says that charges overall have fallen 3.9 per cent in one year. Those companies that had been the most expensive showed the biggest

improvements. Flowever, for a ten-year endowment unit-linked policy, one of the lowest-charging pensiums from Equitable Life would cost £300 out of total contribution of £3,600 over live years based on premiums of £60 a month. A similar product from Hearts of Oak

Friendly Society, would cost £1.500 out of a total contribution of £3.600. Other highchargers were Pearl, United Friendly (which has merged with Refuge to become United Assurance). Wesleyan Assur-ance Society, Windsor Life, Albany International, and Reliance Mutual.

The study found that there was little difference between the price of direct products and those sold by an adviser. The PIA also found evidence of investors bartering with advisers over charges if they intended to make large contributions to policies.





BUSINESS ROUNDS End in sight for dispute with ON

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Scholl sells Septim



□ Not-so-merry Christmas for retailers □ Reasons behind rash of profits downgradings □ More trouble ahead in Lime Street

☐ THERE are many pressing questions that trouble us in the dark early days of 1997. Can the monarchy survive? Why do some Scots drive around in cars advertising their nationality—in French? Will it ever be warm again? And after that nightmare dash for last-minute presents the weekend before Christmas. Seasonal sales lack lustre seized as evidence by critics of the like-for-like comparisons this

weekend before Christmas, repeated elsewhere. when the shops were crowded The kindest outcome for Sears, per cent rise by Dixons. and everyone was so bad-temand the expectation of most pered, why does nobody else seem to have bought anything?
The seasonal trading statements now trickling out from retailers are already a mixed bunch Some of the marriellers. analysts, would be for the group to be put out of its misery by a

break-up, whether by present management or a hostile takeover. Either way one of Pennington's forecasts for 1997, bunch. Some of the specialists, selling jewellery, computers, an exit from shoe retailing and greetings cards or sports goods, did well. The more broad-based the departure of Liam Strong, the chief executive, would seem to be in the bag.

The rest of the retailers went chains had a less spectacular Christmas, Sears has capped a dreadful 1996 with a profits warning. Argos, trading update out today, is not likely to be exciting, by comparison with the expectations the company has built up. Others such as Next, Boots and Littlewoods will be out in the next few days. into Christmas with high hopes, after a good November and fair

start to December. The CBI's Distributive Trades Survey in-dicates, and figures from the British Retail Consortium on Tuesday are likely to confirm, that those hopes were not met. There are some technical fac-tors to do with when the holidays predicament can get worse, but fell this year, but broadly there was a slump in the second week of last month and then a lastminute rush that may not have been enough to offset this. This

compares with the strong Christ-

mas performance a year ago, and it suggests some of the other

management, but it is likely to be time may be closer to the Sears experience than the reported 8

These Christmas trading statements are an agreeable enough ritual that enlivens what are traditionally quiet times for the market. But the real significance is in the rate of sales growth for last year as a whole. Tony Shiret, at BZW, is shoot-

ing for 3 per cent and is not going to be too far off. That is a healthy enough rise by any measure, especially when you strip out the dogs such as Sears and House of Fraser. The high street has enough to celebrate already.

Forecasts are for changing

□WHAT fum it will be this summer, browsing through the menu gastronomique, a chilled glass of kir at hand — and the pound sufficiently close to that ten-franc level we all really think it is worth, so no tormous mental arithmetic when the hill arrives. But the City, with its sudden rash of profits downgradings, is not P*ENNINGTON* 



able to take so rosy a view. There is more to the mass outbreak of pessimism over profits for 1997 than the recent rise in sterling. even though this has been the sharpest in percentage terms since 1981. A similar exercise 100% place last year, when forecasts of earnings for 1996 were deemed to

be too high.
The City went into 1996 with the expectation that non-financial stocks would see earnings growth of 12 per cent; the actual figure is now expected to come out at 6 or 7 per cent. Much adjustment was needed to forecasts in the meantime.

Likewise that figure for 1997 is in some places still at 10 per cent; about half this looks achievable. In the UK labour cost pressures are running ahead of inflation, and that low inflation environment does not allow these to be passed on to customers.

Add to that the pound, clearly the most significant factor behind the latest gloom, and the fact that continental markets do not appear to be picking up as fast as some had hoped. Analysts are always a bit behind the action in responding to rising sterling, because no one can yet quite believe in a strong pound. Assume sterling stays where it is, or European currencies fall, as they must. More downgradings look ineritable

But it is always worth mak-

ing a distinction, as the market often does not, between stocks that suffer through translation of profits earned abroad because those profits are worth less in sterling terms, and those of this week's victims whose trading has actually suffered. In the former category are drug companies, for example; in the latter the likes of British Steel, with the miserable job of exporting against a strong pound.
And never forget that analysts like moving their profit

forecasts, whether up or down, because this stimulates business. The rule has always been, forecast early and forecast often.

#### Still in a stew at Lloyd's

☐ FUNNY place, Lloyd's. In one corner, council members are pinning on medals and collecting knighthoods. In the other, a former deputy chairman effectively submits to a £1 million fine, and pledges never to work in the Lloyd's market again. Out in the shires, more than 2,000 names are still waiting for cheques promised to them three months ago. Several hundred more are waiting for the day when the bailiffs come calling.

Ponder this for a moment, and one realises how little has changed. Reconstruction and Renewal (R&R) was supposed to be a harbinger of peace and tranquility. Hard-pressed names could write - or receive - that one last cheque, and kiss goodbve to the whole sorry business. No such luck. The black-balling of Stephen

Offer cracks down Ex-Swalec chief to

Reward for loyalty ☐ TIM Eggar is gathering re-warding posts in the North Sea

Merrett is one of several running

themes. Before Christmas, Lloyd's admitted to embarrass-ing delays in sending out cheques to 12,000 names owed

5570 million under R&R. So far.

9,800 have received £370 million.

and no-one knows when the

process will end. Stories persist

of names receiving the wrong amounts. Court action by Lloyd's

against non-paying names is

Profits in 1994 are expected to

top El billion, but weakening

insurance rates and increasing

over-capacity could yet leave their mark. Throw aggrieved

names into the pot, and one is left

with a fiery dish with a lingering

after-taste. Sample with care,

expected to resume next week.

oil industry he did so much to promote as Energy Minister, unemployed miners and British Gas shareholders will note. Bur his latest job at old chum Tony Craven Walker's Monument Oil and Gas, following the chair of oil engineer Kellog's UK arm, suggest that even an energetic 45year-old Tory minister who timed his exit early is not finding that big one easily. Those MPs who light and lose their seats may yet regret that they abol-

## sells mine in dispute

in the next few days.

. It is hard to see how the Sears:

the record suggests management

is well up to the task of ensuring

it will. Trading at Selfridges was

lacklustre, even if most of the

damage was elsewhere in the

group. The most startling figure, a like-for-like fall of 0.5 per cent in all Christmas sales, will be

BY CARL MORTISHED

RTZ-CRA, the mining group has sold Century Zinc, the Australian company that is at the heart of. an aboriginal land title dispute, to Pasminco for A\$345 million (£160 million). The buyer, a local, has paid a deposit of A\$10 million with the belance due after the issue by the government of Queens-land of valid leases allowing the Century project to

Huge zinc deposits were identified by Century in Northern Queensland in 1990 and the company planned a development capable of producing 780,000 tonnes of concentrate a year, but the development has been dogged. by claims that the indigenous aboriginal title to the land had never been

RTZ-CRA said that it: had invested more than A\$240 million to date in the Century Zinc project. Pasmirico has contracted

## RTZ-CRA Raytheon fights Northrop for GM defence arm

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

GENERAL MOTORS has received offers of about \$9 billion for Hughes Electronics, its defence arm, from Raytheon and Northrop Grumman in the first round of what is expected to become a fierce bidding war for the

business. Raytheon was told by GM that its bid was about \$500 million lower than that of Northrop and is likely to raise

Both it and Northrop are determined to win because they see the purchase of Hughes as essential to their survival in the restructuring of the US defence industry.

after the end of the Cold War. a few giant defence conglom-erates have emerged, leaving vulnerable. Hughes is one of

panies up for sale. The danger for Raytheon and Northrop is of over-extending themselves by bidding too much since they would both have difficulties in financing a bid that included more than about \$5

billion in cash. Analysts said that Raytheon could have particular difficulty after its \$3 billion bid on Monday for the defence electronics division of Texas

Insturments. ... GM, however, has made it a condition of the bidding for Hughes that about half the purchase price must be in the shares of the bidding company. Raytheon and Northrop just on price but on which company has the better prospects and can offer the best fit

Raytheon argues that it is a

stable group than Northrop. It also says that Hughes, which specialises in missile technology, would make a good strategic fit with its

operations.

Raytheon and Northrop are both considerably smaller than the largest US defence groups created out of a flood of mergers and takeover during the past four years.

The largest of these deals, the \$19 billion merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas announced shortly before Christmas to create the world's biggest aircraft manufacturer, was triggered by GM's decision to put Hughes with the deal when it became concerned that McDonnell would buy Hughes, which would have made it too expensive for Boeing to purchase at

#### on special deals BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY THE electricity watchdog yes-

terday launched a crackdown on special deals offered to small businesses that lock them into contracts with suppliers well beyond the date by which they will be able to shop around for energy. By April 1998, households and users of less than 100Mw

of electricity will be able to buy energy competitively, but some regional companies are offering small non-domestic users cheaper prices if they agree to long-term contracts. Stephen Littlechild, the

electricity regulator, said he was "concerned" about discriminatory treatment of different customers and the damage it could do the development of competition in

The Office of Electricity Supply also wants to make sure the deals are not being



Littlechild: concerned

customers. All customers with the same tariff should enjoy the same opportunities from a regional monopoly supplier.
All the regional electricity companies are being questioned about such contracts after a series of inquiries to the regulator from customers.

#### run McKechnie By Paul Durman

MCKECHNIE, the plastic and metal components group, yesterday announced the surprise departure of Mike Ost, the company's chief executive for the past ten years.

Mr Ost is to leave his £240,000 a year job in March. He will be replaced by Andrew Walker, who was chief executive of Swalec until the South Wales electricity company was taken over by Welsh Water at the end of 1995.

Vanni Treves, McKechnie's chairman, said Mr Ost's departure was a mutual decision taken after lengthy discussions. "He's 52. He's got one more big job in him." Mr Treves said. "It was time for him to go elsewhere, leaving the company in great nick." McKechnie, which has a stock market value of nearly E600 million, recently reported annual pre-tax profits of just

over £50 million. Mr Ost yesterday repeated his view that McKechnie was poised for another year of significant progress. "The group is sound and has an excellent management team performing well, as will be evidenced by the next set of figures." Mr Treves said Mr Ost will

not receive a lump-sum compensation payment for the loss of his job. He will receive his salary, plus possible bonus entitlements, for a maximum 18 months. Although McKechnie's profits have grown consistently, recent progress has depended almost

entirely on acquisitions, Mr Walker, 45, joined Swalec in November 1993. He was previously managing director of Dowty's polymer engineering division.

Tempus, page 28

## Jurys checks in with 39% profits advance to £7.7m

IN DUBLIN

JURYS, the hotel group based in the Republic of Ireland. believes its ability to attract a large share of the corporate business market should ensure that its new Belfast unit will not suffer as a result of the resumption of violence north of the Northern Ireland is due to open in April. Barry Sheehan, director of

finance and corporate affairs. said Jurys was attracted to Belfast because of the steady corporate business market there rather than the potential expansion of the tourist trade. He said: "We, like everyone else, would like to see an end to business market is there and will always be there, and Jurys

will get its share". Yesterday Jurys, where Peter Malone is managing director. reported a 39 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to Ir £7.9 million (57.7 million) for the six months to October last year. Turnover was up 17 per cent to just over Ir£29 million. Excluding con-



Progress at Jurys was pleasing to Peter Malone

at Cardiff and Dublin, turnover rose more than 15 per

cent to Iri4.5p a share.

tributions from its new units a half of the turnover in its

The strong performance was fuelled by the booming economy in the Republic and the sustained recovery in Britain. The corporate business sector accounts for more than

eight units in the Republic and As well as its Belfast unit.

Jurys plans to open a 151bedroom hotel in Limerick and begin work on its 165bedroom unit in central London soon. The interim dividend rises 13 per cent to

#### Confidence lifts Clinton share price

By Sarah Cunningham

CLINTON CARDS and the Electronics Boutique, the retailer of software and video games, both reported a surge in sales in December.

Clinton, Britain's largest greeting card retailer, reported sales up 15.2 per cent in the five weeks to December 29. It said: "Together with more buoyant trading during last autumn, the board is confident of comfortably exceeding current market forecasts." The statement sent its shares leaping 30p to 225p.
Electronics Boutique report-

ed an even stronger 30 per cent rise in like-for-like sales in the month of December. For the 11 months to January 4, like-forlike sales were up 39 per cent. Joe Firestone, chairman, said: "Last year's loss of £8.5 million will be history, as we expect to show a small profit for the year to January 31, 1997, as planned.

TJ Hughes, the discount department store group, said there had been good like-for-like Ir2.6p, payable on March 10. | shares rose 112p to 8012p.

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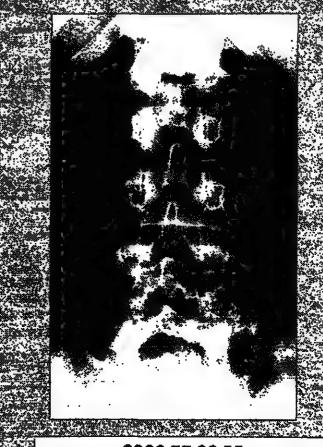
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Bates leaves Simpson's GEC to chair Premier Farnell

## Weinstock lieutenant bows out

By Paul Durman

MALCOLM BATES, Lord Weinstock's long-time lieutenant at the helm of GEC: has become the latest casualty of the start of the George Simpson era at Britain's

leading engineering group.

Mr Bates, GEC's deputy managing director since 1985, is to retire from the electronics and power systems company at the end of March, after more than 16

years on the board. GEC's managing director last Septem- ence from being very senior in a very large ber, and is conducting a wide-ranging company." Mr Poulson identified two

expected to produce a series of substantial disposals this year.

It was also announced yesterday that Mr Bates is to become non-executive chairman of Premier Farnell, the £2 billion electronics component distributor formed from a controversial merger last year. Mr Bates, 62, replaces Richard

Hanwell, who retired last month. Premier Farnell said it believed Mr Bates's "top level strategic experience" will Mr Simpson, the highly regarded be invaluable to its future development former chief executive of Lucas Indus . Howard Poulson, chief executive, said: "I tries, succeeded Lord Weinstock as am really looking to tap into his experi-

overhaul of the group's interests. This is areas where Mr Bates could be of help: looking at the organisational issues and the stresses and strains that occur within large companies", and his understanding of running businesses overseas.

Mr Poulson said Premier Farneli still had to address "lots of cultural problems between different countries". He said the group had largely overcome the more centralised management approach that Farnell Electronics had found within Premier Industrial.

Mr Bates, a member of the Government's Industrial Development Advisory Board, is also chairman of Pearl Group, the Australian-owned insurer

City Diary, page 29

## London rebounds after good news boosts Dow

SHARE prices in London clawed back a 37-point deficit to close virtually all-square on moved sharply higher in early trading last night.

Inspired by an early gain of almost 32 points in the Dow Jones industrial average, the FT-SE 100 index fought back to finish the session 0.5 down at 4.087.0. The Americans were responding to the largest monthly rise in producer price figures since March last year and the biggest year-in-year rise since 1990.

It boosted US Treasury bonds and paved the way for a strong raily by equities. London was sucked along in its wake.

Earlier in the day London had struggled to contend with a steady stream of profit downgradings by brokers concerned by the impact of a strong pound on the big

oversels earners. ICI dropped 14p to 751p as HSBC James Capel, the broker, cut its forecasts for 1997 and 1998 by £100 million each to £650 million and £800 million respectively. Capel has become bearish of the chemical sector in general and remains a seller of ICL.

Currency factors have also forced Capel to take its red pencil to Burmah Castrol. leaving the price 2212p lower at £10.8612. Meanwhile British Steel eased ip to 153p as NatWest Securities, the broker, cut its forecast, taking into account the strong pound

A number of brokers ganged up on British Steel. which is likely to suffer more than most from sterling's strength. Sociéte Generale Strauss Turnbull, NatWest Securities and Merrill Lynch have all downgraded their profit estimates this week. Merrill has more than haived its forecast from £650 million to £280 million.

Merrill Lynch is also worried about the impact currency. fluctuations will have on **Rediand.** with the interests in Germany, its shares dropped 812p to a new low of 33512p. while rival RMC Group lost 29p to 939p in sympathy. It now seems likely that Redland will lose its place as a constituent of the top 100 companies when the actuaries next meet. The consumer spending

boom has done little to revive the fortunes of struggling re-Selfridges and Freemans mail order. The group has con-

LIFFE

122 (171<u>2)</u> 122 (174)



Matthew Clark revived 1812p from its alcopops hangover

firmed reports of a second profits warning and published its trading statement 24 hours ahead of schedule. Trading in the second half had been mixed while the run-up to Christmas proved disappointing, it warned the market that pre-tax profits for the full year will be significantly below last year's £100.1 million. The shares responded with a fall of

Barnes, chairman of Zeneca, was quick to point out. Zeneca finished 61:p dearer at E10.3712 as NatWest Securities urged clients to add to their holdings. Glavo Wellcome slipped 312p to 804p but cheered brokers with the news that its AIDS treatment 1411/14. being developed along with Vertex, has entered Phase 2 trials.

Associated British Foods.

which was downgraded on

currency factors by James Capel earlier in the week,

slipped a further 112p to 461p.

**GNI LONDON GRAIN FLTURES** 

A damen

PUT VIO IL:P

A fresh wave of profit

Note the strength of Fenchurch Insurance, up 6p at 58p. Turnover was heavy with I million shares changing hands in a market where traders normally make a price in 1,000 shares. Talk among the insurance fraternity is that an offer of 100p a share may be forthcoming. That would give Fenchurch a price tag of £37 million.

4p to 8712p, stretching the loss during the past two days to 812p. Talk in the Square Mile claims the latest fall in the share price will annoy institutional investors which may call for Liam Strong, chief executive, to step down.

ICIS-LOR (London 6 09mm)

PRODUCTS GIMED Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt definery)

warnings also helped to depress sentiment. Rubicon tumbled S5p to 11212p after The drug companies steadsaying that profits in the ied themselves after earlier current year would fall short nervousness. Currency moveof expectations due to a slowments have minimal impact on profits as Sir David down in orders.



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Bank continued its recordbreaking run with the price recovering an early fall to climb 2812p to a new peak of £10.5612. Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, has been buying the stock ahead of next month's dividend reporting season. National Westmin ster Bank, up 1512p at 741p, is

801p. Figures are due out next

top ten buys for this year.
But Ladbroke eased 2p to

Speculative buying in a thin market lifted Jardinerie Interiors 1312p to 130p.

tion marked time at 10120 paid 20p each for the shares. likely to match forecasts.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Prices recovered after a hesitant start and moved through several resistance levels before closing near their best of the day. The best gains were recorded during the afternoon after a positive start to trading by US Treasury honds.

gilt jumped £1732 to close at £1083132 as the number of contracts completed reached 63,000.

in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was E314 better at □ NEW YORK: Bonds rebounded on a wholesale price

report, below expectations, that allayed fears that economic growth might soon spell higher inflation. Shares followed. The Dow Jones industrial average was 70.42 points higher at 6.619.90 by

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also on Laing's buy list. Matthew Clark, the drinks group, made the most of a comment in yesterday's Pennington column suggesting the stock had been oversold, with the price rising 1812p to 27712p. Competition from alcopops cost the group dearly last year and saw the price tumble from a peak of

P&O. up 1312p at 603p, and Pearson, 90 better at 74712p. both feature prominently among Kleinwort Benson's

230p as ABN Amro Hoare Govett reduced its recommendation from a "buy" to a

On AlM Dean Corpora-

after snapping up a 25.8 per cent stake in Superframe. It AlM-listed Staffware plunged 56p to 1971ap after warning of a profits shortfall. Despite talk of a promising second half, profits were un-

The March series of the long

climbed E1532 to E10134, while

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## TOMPUS

## Steel feels the cold

company's bosses feel the cold more than most. ASW makes reinforcing bars for the construction industry and every day of hard frost means another day when concrete is not being poured at construction sites across Europe. Cold weather delayed building starts last winter, leaving a backlog of steel stocks. which have been slow to clear.

ASW is in trouble. The company took over a French competitor in 1994 hoping that the French and German building sector would pick up. Instead, it has remained stuck in the doldrums and ASW has been running up losses. In desperation, the company is selling off profitable businesses to reduce gearing. which remains high at 70 per cent: if trading does not live up to expectations, a rescue.

CURSES at the snow and ice will be loud at rights issue could be on the cards. Curiously, ASW's headquarters in Cardiff. The steel the strength of sterling helps ASW because scrap metal, its main raw material, is priced in dollars. However, British Steel is suffering a further bout of blood-letting on the stock market. Early in November. Tempus gave warning that a hard currency would lead to trouble; a rough and ready guide suggests a £100 million hit to profits for every ten pfennig rise in the pound. Carmakers are said to be achieving 4 per cent price reductions in long-

term steel contracts. The big worry is that British Steel will not just lose exports but that cheap imports could erode its 60 per cent share of the UK market. British Steel has some £600 million of cash to ride out this storm but with profits being shredded it could be tempted to cut the

tions have transformed.

#### McKechnie

THE official version is that Mike Ost is ending his ten year stint at the helm of McKechnie to seek one last big challenge before he retires. It is not entirely clear why he has to look elsewhere when he is already running a £600 million company. And he has strangely neglected to identify that next challenge before he departs from the McKechnie fold.

Mr Ost would like you to know that the plastic and metal components group is not in trouble, and yesterday reiterated recent comments that McKechnie is poised for another year of significant

progress".
The impression remains that Mr Ost's departure was not entirely unwelcome, and the share price, up 4p to 554 p. makes its own comment. Numerous acquisi-

The company's recent McKechnie from the archegrowth has come almost typal Midlands metal basher entirely from acquisitions, into a diversified group that while the underlying busispans car components, mo-bile phone parts, packaging ness has been flat. McKechnie is also weak in and materials handling. Yet continental Europe and the the ten year share record is creditable rather than spec-These must be two key tacular. McKechnie has tracked the FT-SE All share

formed since January 1988.

issues for the new chief



#### M&S

+ 30

THE shopping centre market was already simmering very nicely until yesterday, when Britain's favourite clothing retailer sharply turned up the heat to boil. Marks & Spencer yesterday threw £122 million on the table to snatch the Gyle Shopping Centre in Edinburgh from under the nose of Universities Superan-

M&S always had a right of first refusal, a fact well understood by USS, which has had its legal costs reimbursed. The retailer is poohmarks a new property strate-gy, noting that the company already owns most of its

Northern Ireland. Nevertheless, the price is very high, struck at an initial yield of 4 per cent. Even adjusting for current market rents the yield is only 5.75 per

Capital Shopping Centres gaining 5p. Others, such as Cheisfield should also benefit as valuations are reworked. The question is whether M&S is making a good move. The company wants to ex-tend its store in the Gyle Centre but no landlord would reasonably turn down a development request from M&S: To spend such a sum suggests a strategic, rather than

tactical move. M&S may be

seeking to protect itself from

scaring rents or, more likely, benefit from soaring values: Reg Vardy REG VARDY has again

demonstrated why it is has earned the reputation as the most ingenious car dealer on the market. A series of marketing gimmicks has set it. apart from the stagnating car market, helping the company to achieve underlying growth of 18 per cent.

ly understands that no longer beautiful. already concentrated

its dealerships into large sites, a move copied by com-

petitors with manufacturers barking at their heels. At the second-hand level; it has again led the field with its giant used car "supersites" At a size of three acres each, they more closely resemble giant airport car parks than the typical motor dealer's

The last piece of its market engineering is to create the car world's equivalent of the bargain bin or "too good to auction" cars. Vardy is bridging the gap between the sec-ondhand showroom and the uction yard, a sector likely to be especially fertile in

times of recession. The market has already recognised its value and at a rating of 15.7 times, its shares themselves are nowhere near the bargain bin. But if you only have one car dealer in your portfolio, Vardy is better positioned than many in this

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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#### Ronson line on **Guys and Dolls**

GERALD RONSON at a production of Guys and Dolls, surely not? The flamboyant tycoon, jailed for his part in the Guinness affair, was this week at Richard Eyre's production at the National Theatre

the truth has

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20 pg 2:

An urban tale of gaing-sters shown the path of righteousness by an all-singing gang of missionar-ies, it's hard to imagine what the chief executive of Heron International made of the 1960s musical. The survival can only have appealled to the tough-talking father of four who once had a sign on his desk. It can be done.

#### Jumped the gun

RED-FACED Chase de Vere Investments was forced to apologise yesterday for being too hasty. Earlier this week it sent out a rabble-rousing release extolling the virtues of the new instant-access investment account that it was launching with Flem-ings Save & Prosper, promising to match or exceed the average rates paid by ten of the UK's leading building societies. Only 24 hours later, the follow fax arrived — the launch has been delayed.

A MEMORABLE malapropism on the screens yesterday, after Selfcare's proposal to replace the board of Environed. The announcement quoted Ron Zwanziger, chief executive of the company spe-cialising in diagnostic products: "Seifcare will have two votes on a board hardiy a backdoor take-



"It's from Climton

#### Bates bows out

MISERY at GEC, after is retiring as deputy managing director at the end of its financial year. An active government and industry think-tanks, the 62-year-old has been appointed non-executive chairman of Premier Parnell, the electronies group. According to Sara Morrison, a direc-tor at GEC. "Makeolan will be greatly missed - he's the only person in the company who can write legibly. We'll never under stand one another again."

#### Bigger splash

MIKE HOFFMAN, axed from Thames Water last year, is gradually going back to his engineering roots. A Rolls-Royce ap-prenticeship was a bit over the top as qualification to be a non-exec at Hornby, the model train king, but may help him to chair the management buyout team for the Government's Building Research Centre. Along with a board seat at PowerGen and chairing the council of Brunel University, this would be enough for most. But do not write the energetic Hoffman off from another chief executive post.

A FOLLOW-UP on my story that City Index was betting on the number of days that Richard Branson stayed in the air. The sports and financial bookmaker, which promised to donate any profits to charity, lost £800 in

MORAG PRESTON

THE OUTLOOK FOR 1997

THE WEAKEST MAJOR CURRENCY WILL BE THE MARK

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## Which economic trend will be your friend this year?

UK RATES WILL RISE LESS THAN EXPECTED

Forecasts lose their value

when markets start to

> change direction

appy New Year. It certainly has been — so fair — for anyone who stock to the main financial trends of 1996 which I highlighted in the last Economic View before

The dollar and the pound, both widely despised a year ago by investors, have continned rising sharply. Wall Street, which was supposedly overvalued a year ago, hit a new record on Tuesday while Tokyo — the macket most favoured last January by professional investors - has suffered a further: 10 per cent collapse in the past four days. Even Japanese and European boods, two of the errant markets of 1996, which continually defied economic logic, have started behaving in a more sensible manner, felling sharply in the three weeks since Christmas. This hear market in bonds is a trend I certainly expect to see continumg in 1997 - especially in Japan, which is in the grip of another classic Tokyo bubble, and in Europe, where investors have forgotten about the hazards of EMU both to the countries that participate and to those, such as Italy, that are

left outside. In Britain, too, the favourable trends of 1996 are

The question now is which of these trends we expect to continue and which will go into reverse. The trend is your many financial traders. But nothing is more dangerous than sticking to a trend which is about to turn. This is as true of the supposedly scientific business of macroeconomic forecasting as of the very unscientific financial soothsaying I like to incluige in at

this time of year. in analysing the behaviour of an economy in a period of more or less steady growth, nothing tan beat a large and well-specified macroeconomic model of the kind used by governments, big banks and international institutions like the IMF and the OECD. But at times when the trend is breaking — when an economy is about to tumble into recession or take off on a sudden boom — the big conventional models

are worse than useless. The key question in assessing this year's economic pros-pents, therefore, is which economies are following and which are breaking trends. For countries on a path of steady growth, there is not much hope of second-guessing the Government and OECD forecasts. But for countries moving into or out of recessions, official forecasts are not worth the paper they are

In this second category, I

would put Italy and Japan. and financial crisis, resulting from an impossibly restrictive fiscal policy combined with a sharp rise in the exchange rate. Japan could also fall back into recession if the stock market meltdown in Tokyo continues and the Ministry of Finance goes through with its hara: kiri policy of raising taxes while slashing public works, I suspect, however, that fears of financial collapse will make the MoF bureaucrats reverse their fiscal plans. If so,

ger growth than the 1.6 per cent predicted by the OECD. In the first group of coun-tries, where official forecasts have to be treated with respect. I would include America, Britain, Canada, much of the developing world and - more controversially — both Germany and France, which will benefit from a dramatic weakening of the corn. If pressed, I would guess that America will grow a little more strongly "than the OECD's 2.2 per cent forecast, which is largely conditioned by outdated assumptions about the "natural" rate of

Japan could enjoy a big revival

in confidence and much stron-

maximum rate of non-infla-Britain's growth rate, by contrast, may end a strade below the OECD's 3.3 per cent figure. I still believe that Britain will be the fastestgrowing G7 country, but there will be no boom, partly because of last year's strength of sterling, but also because of a tighter than expected fiscal

unemployment and America's

I described on this page on Tuesday some of the reasons why fiscal policy could be tightened after the election.

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imagined a few months ago. The Treasury, the Bank and the Labour Party are waking up to the availability of large revenue-raising measures out-side the forbidden territories of income tax and VAT. As Margaret Thatcher realised in 1979, there is only one good time for a major shift in the tax burden: the Budget immediately after a big election victory. The most plausible reform would be the abolition the dividend-imputation system which subsidises UK pension funds. Such a move would have big financial implications. British shares would fall, although less sharply than the pension fund

The ultimate burden of dividend taxes falls on the workers and employers — and workers, in particular, will increase their stock market savings to make up for anticipated pensions shortfalls. The outlook for interest rates would be improved. The futures market is forecasting a rise in three-month interest rates from 6.5 per cent today to 7.4 per cent in December. suspect that a modest fiscal tightening would be enough to keep base rates at 7 per cent or below. This would take much of the pressure off the pound. Despite this, the pound's up-trend should continue against the mark, which is set to become the world's weakest major currency. Against the dollar, however, sterling's upout of steam at \$1.70. If the dollar rises eventually to at

The strong dollar is one trend that has now been running for almost two years and shows no sign of turning. I argued back in December 1994 that the dollar's 30-year downtrend against the mark and yen was about to turn. I now believe more firmly than ever that what started two years ago was a long-term secular trend and not just a cyclical blip in a continuing bear market. So far, the dollar's biggest move has been against the yen. But with the Japanese economy now poised for recovery (barring a collective outbreak of insanity at the Ministry of Finance), the yen should stabilise somewhere in the Y120 to Y130 range. Germany, by contrast, is now structurally the weakest economy in Europe. Its only hope of restoring international competitiveness is to abandon the

"hard" mark and welcome a currency designed to depreciate much further against the dollar, the yen and even the friendless Swiss franc. The weak mark, in other words, seems to be another case where "the trend is your friend" until further notice.

Now let me turn to some big financial trends that may finally be exhausted. The most important is the huge run-un in share prices around the crash on Wall Street remains unlikely, since American shares are only modestly overvalued even at 6,600 on the Dow. However, any further profits growth to catch up with expectations. The most benign (and probable) outcome would be a long period of direction-

matic alternative is possible another big gain of 20 per cent or so followed by an equally sharp (all. Either way, shares in most leading markets are likely to end 1997 roughly where they started. The main exception (apart from London, which may be affected by tax and political considerations) could be Tokyo.

Most of last year was trendless for investors in Japan, rather like 1997 could be

THE DOLLAR WILL RISE EVEN

240

in other markets. But this year Tokyo shares are likely to fall sharply or to rise sharply — or quite possibly to do both. Sentiment about Japan is now at a bearish extreme. If the economy does slow, the pessimism will be fully justified. parts of the financial system will collapse and the Nikkei could quickly crash back to its 1995 lows. But if the bureaucrats relent and the economic recovery accelerates. Tokyo share prices could easily rise 20 or 30 per cent. In Japan, at least, the trend is certainly not your friend at the moment.

## Returns to senders in Nigeria

Beware the poison penned by fraudsters, writes Robert Miller

wealthy Califorlost millions of dollars to fraudsters who are using London as an international base from which to operate

their scams. Their plight has led senior fraud squad detectives in Britain to warn investors to be on the alert for a fresh wave of illegal schemes operating out of London, many of which are connected with Nigeria. These new scams are more sophisticated versions of the Nigerian letters that have flooded the UK in recent years. One was even sent to George Staple, director of the Serious Fraud

Most Nigerian letters offer millions of dollars to UK and overseas investors who help bogus Nigerian officials smuggle money, which has allegedly been siphoned from Government contracts, out of the country.

Detective Inspector David Crinnion, of the Metropolitan Police

Company Fraud Squad said: "Worldwide, the losses from these scams run into billars year. Investors in over 51 countries, including Britain. have received Nigerian letters.

repeated

Staple: received letter

to touch them people still prove all too guilible." Mr Crinnian, who last vear broke-up a Nigerian scam led by fugitive "Chief" ed in a former Barclays Bank manager being jailed for five years, added: "Translated, these letters have the same theme -'Dear Sir or Madam, I am a thief who has stolen a lot of Tackling fraud, as well as money from the Govern-ment and I would like your help to get it out of Nigeria'.

and never have." inquiries by The Times have established that two groups of US investors, attracted by the sound regulatory reputation of the City of London, were induced to part with more than \$3 million. They handed over the money to a Nigerian group — CBN International Clearing House — headed

These monies do not exist

operates out of an accomodation address in the the West End of London.

The first group, which put up around \$2 million, used the international electronic banking system to wire money through the Holborn branch of a British bank in London for onward tranmission to Nigeria. The investors were told that the funds would back a Nigerian oil field construction being carried out by a Costa Rican company.

Chris Pedras, one of the US investors, said: "We have been told by the Nigerian Petroleum Corporation office in London that these contracts never existed." Mr Pedras alleges that Nigerian Government officials are part of the scam and receive a pay-off in return for the

use of genuine seals, The Nigerian High Commission in London yesterday categorically denied that the fraudsters were Nigerian Government offici-

als. The Commission pointed out ernment has taken out newspaper advertisewide to warn investors about the fraudulent nature of these letters and deals. Mr Pedras

Clark, a rep-

resentative of the second group of US investors, which lost \$1 million and was also told that the money was being invested in an over-budgeted oil field construction project, last month visited London to trace the missing funds. They tried unsuccessfully to lure "Dr Spiff" into a face-toface meeting using further

money-laundering, is an international issue, often spanning five or six jurisdictions. The emphasis is on much closer co-operation between British agencies and their overseas counterparts. in one such move currently before the UK courts, a state agency in Florida has lodged a request with the UK authorities for the extradition of three Nigerian citizens, operating out of London, back to the sunshine state.

# **3** 28

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a few thousand pages of our own, and from January 3 we're offering it to teachers - free. The new TES Internet Service has been designed entirely around your needs, So you won't just find an on-line copy of The TES. There are also thousands of links to other educational sites - from SCAA to the British Museum, NASA to the Louvre. There are sections on Scotland, further education and curriculum pages.

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

## A happy high

street rip-off? From Mr D. Alistair Hibbert Sir, You quote John O'Sullivan of NatWest Markets (The Times, December 19, ("Good tidings for Christmas sales") as saying: This is clear evidence that the momentum behind high street spending is eroding consumers' sensitivity

to price increases." -In simple English does this mean "The public are happy

D. ALISTAIR HIBBERT, 5 Fox's Covert, Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire

From the Company Secretary, Direct Line Group Sir, Your newspaper published an article on December 31, 1996, which, thue to a communication error, overstated the 1996 remuneration of Peter Wood, chairman of Direct Line Insurance, Mr Wood's total remuneration for that year, for his services to Croydon, Surrey.

#### Insurance companies contribute to ABI annual survey of fraud From the Deputy Director- million in 1993, through £600

General of the Association of British Insurers

Sir, Mr E.J. Smith asked (Rusiness Letters, January 7) how the extent of fraudulent insurance claims is assessed. The Association of British insurers (ABI) conducts an annual survey of insurance companies. They are asked for their individual assessment of the level of insurance fraud of different types for various classes of insurance, and the answers are collated to produce an overall result.

The total cost has fallen from a starting figure of £800 Direct Line and its paren

company, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group pic, was £429,414. He received no salary from the Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc. Yours faithfully. PETER ATKINSON, Company Secretary. Direct Line Group, 3 Edridge Road,

#### million in 1994, ESBS million in 1995 to £560 million in 1996.

least DM1.70, sterling will have to fall quite sharply

This reduction has been achieved in two ways. First, the insurance companies have made strenuous efforts to improve the skill of their staff to spot potentially fraudulent claims and then to check them

out thoroughly but fairly. Secondly, the ABI's Crime and Fraud Prevention Bureau (established 18 months ago) has provided a forum for insurance companies to share knowledge, particularly of new forms of fraud, and so improve the industry's antifraud capability and performance. A series of successful initiatives have been under-

taken and publicised. We are not complacent about insurance fraud and we are determined to continue to reduce its impact on the vast majority of insurance policyholders, who are honest. Yours faithfully. TONY BAKER, Deputy Director-General.

51 Gresham Street, EC2.

#### From Mr Nigel L. Denton Sir, Members of the Halifax Building Society (report.

Computer errors

can be corrected

January 2) who feel that they will miss out on their share rectly entered computer through the 1984 Data Protection Act. This places the onus on the

owner of computer data to hold only accurate information and to keep it up to date. Under Section 21 of the Act the Society must provide a printout of the personal data held on any member who pays the appropriate fee. This information must be corrected if shown to be in error. Yours faithfully, NIGELL DENTON, 12 Maria Court.

Letters to the Business section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

THOUTTHOUGH BELLEN WALLACE | WILLIAM TO SELECT WALLACE | WALLACE |

Southcote Road

## Nikkei dives amid fears about health of Japanese economy

BY OLIVER AUGUST

DEEPENING gloom about the Japanese economy is engulfing the Tokyo stock market. Yesterday's share price plunge sent the Nikkei market average down 3.25 per cent to its lowest close in more than a year.

stock market tumbles, was driven by fierce selling of Japanese banking shares coupled with rounds of futures-linked selling, brokers said.

The nosedive, the latest in a series of steep

The Nikkei ended the day 606.51 points lower at 18.073.87. The index has lost almost 1.300 al reforms. Haruyoshi Mabuchi, chief strategist

touching a nearly four-year low of Y117 to the dollar on Monday.

The gloom descended last month when the Japanese Government unveiled plans to raise taxes to tackle budget deficit problems, even at the risk of squeezing the country's still tentative economic recovery. The markets are deeply sceptical about the ability of Ryutaro Hashimoto. the Prime Minister, to help to sustain economic

points in the first four trading days of 1997. The at Nikko Securities, said: "The Government has yen also stumbled at the start of the year, briefly not felt it urgent to hammer out a new plan just by the Nikkei 225's break through 19,000. It will necessary for it to hit around 18,000 to prompt

the Government to change its policy."

Economists will focus on the details of Mr Hashimoto's policy speech before parliament on January 20, but traders said that expectations

Mr Mabuchi said: "There is a possibility that the Government will not do anything and let financial firms close their books for the fiscal year in the red. Then the Nikkei may dive to

around 17,000." Yasunari Ueno, chief economist at Fuji Securities, said that few options were left for the Government. "It would be difficult for the Government to propose something effective on

January 20," he said. Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, the Finance Minister, has been trying to pull private investors into the fight for recovery. He said that big firms must take the lead in boosting the economy and not rely too much on the Government.

The slumping stock market has renewed fears of a "triple bear" scenario in which Japan's currency, shares and bond prices all collapse at

once. But traders think that a "double bear" scenario of a free falling yen and share prices is a greater possibility.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is in Tokyo to meet husiness leaders and government officials, yesterday urged Japan to forge ahead with economic reforms that he said Britain had found could hurt at first but

ultimately yielded big rewards.

He added: "We did go through a pain barrier in a way, but the pain was not that bad. And the overall benefits to society as a whole are evident and are inteversible."

## OFT under attack over report into BA and American

BY JON ASHWORTH

Airlines were given until

January 10 to respond to the

OFT proposals. Last month, the OFT said that BA and

American would have to give

up 168 take-off and landing

slots at Heathrow - repre-

senting 84 flights - if they

were to proceed with their

alliance. It additionally called

for wider access to their fre-

Continental, the fifth largest

US carrier, was damning in its

although this is subject to

completion of the Allied

Metals sale, which is worth

In the steel sector, ASW

said it benefited from the

lower price of scrap, a major

input cost in the UK and

continental Europe. Scrap

prices decreased by 15-20 per

cent in the second half of

1996. Steel stocks at down-

Shares of ASW were un-

Last year the shares trad-

ed at a high of 95p before

fears about a decline in steel

prices raised concern about

trading. In 1995 ASW

earned pre-tax profits of £13.8 million on turnover of

Tempus, page 28

changed at 33p yesterday, valuing the business at £27

helieved to have co

to normal levels.

£641.9 million.

£33 million.

quent fiver programmes.

Construction

slump keeps

ASW in cold

petition was not stifled.

BRITISH AIRWAYS and American Airlines will have to make further substantial concessions in order for their alliance to proceed, opponents stated vesterday.

Two rival carriers. United and Continental, said that draft conditions from the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) came nowhere near addressing their concerns. Continental said that the draft OFT report was a "disgrace" that could only have been influenced by pressure from West-

ASW HOLDINGS, the steel

and building materials com-

pany, has yet to escape the

slump in the construction

sector. The company said yesterday it had suffered

further losses since June

1996, despite an increase in

ASW said: "The directors

expect that trading would

improve in 1997 over 1996.

short term will be affected

hy weather conditions in the

continental Europe im-

proved in the second half of

1996 compared with the first

half. But financial problems

have not abated. The

group's loan burden has

forced it to sell various

assets, including Allied Met-

als, over the past few

ASW said certain bank

facilities had been revised.

Margins in the UK and

UK sales volumes.

winter months."

measures to ensure that comproposals. Barry Simon. senior vice-president, international, said: "There is no intelligent person who could have come up with this report. It must have been dictated by a political person."

Mr Simon said that business air fares between the UK and America could rise 50 per within two years if the deal went through without further conditions being imposed. BA/American would speak for 60 per cent of seats between the UK and America and nearly 70 per cent of seats between London and New York. Mr Simon said: "BA will have eliminated its major competition. Consumers will be much more at its mercy."

United, the world's largest carrier, said that measures were needed to ensure the proposed alliance did not harm consumers and stifle competition. These included siot divestiture, a commitment not to penalise other airlines by asking them to pay for slots, and more equal access to airport facilities.

Cyril Murphy, United's vice-president. international affairs, said: "It is absolutely critical that any undertakings on British Airways and American truly correspond to the actual loss of competition that will result from their proposed alliance. So far, the undertakings put forward provide neither the incentive nor the physical means for other airlines to offer a competitive counter-balance to BA and American."

Continental said that it alone would need 140 slots just to meet its primary goals. It would seek to compete on the London to New York run -"the biggest market in the world" - by operating daily services to Newark. New Jersey. It would additionally seek to offset BA/American's total dominance of the London to Dallas route by operating parallel services out of Houston, its domestic hub.



Longer-term prospects remain good at Rubicon, according to Tim Wightman, left, and Nino Allenza, finance director

## Warning takes 30% off Rubicon

BY MARTIN BARROW

RUBICON GROUP lost almost a third of its stock market value yesterday after the specialist engineer warned investors that profits would be "substantially below market expectations" in the

Rubicon shares fell 10212p from 167 p in quick response before settling at 117½ p, representing a fall of 30 per cent, and reducing the company's capitalisation to £103 million from £146.8 million. The profit warning was a nasty sur-prise for analysts who

KDOCH LANG M-ERLIOP &

upgraded profit forecasts as recently as November after an upbeat trading statement at the company's annual meeting.

The company, which earned pre-tax profits of £10.88 million in the last full financial year, said a slowdown in orders was evident in the second half of the current year, reflecting a marked deterioration in trading in two of its divisions.

The metal fabrications division had suffered because the pattern of trading in UK

personal computer manufac-£1.2 million of rationalisation turing customers had failed to show its traditional upturn in December. The board now took a more pessimistic view of trading in the first quarter The company, whose chief executive is Tim Wightman, of 1997. Weak demand for aluminium castings from the said that despite the setback cashflow remains strong. The European automotive industry had adversely affected the specialist castings division and order schedules are now

expected to be lower in 1997. Results for the six months to November 30, due January 29. will be in line with market costs. In an effort to cut costs the company envisages employee reductions of up to 20 per cent in some divisions.

board was "confident of the inherent strengths of all the group's divisions" and that prospects for the following financial year remained good. Rubicon would continue

policy, the company said.

with its progressive dividend

#### Cash offer made for Scott **Pickford**

offa orei

min!

CORE LABORATORIES, the American oil drilling consul-tancy, has tabled a firm cash offer for Scott Pickford at 53p per share, valuing the geologi-cal consultancy, which is listed on the Alternative Investment Market, at £8.27 million...

The move prompted Aerodata, the Australian geological consultancy, also vying to make a bid, to lift its negotiating price to 53p per share, although it stopped

short of making a formal offer. Aerodata stands to gain 19 per cent of Scott Pickford under a share swap with the company secured by Don Scott, its founder and chairman. However, Mr Scott is opposed by a rival faction within the board that last month succeeded in gaining control of the company.

Scott' Pickford's shares closed is pup yesterday, at 52p. The share swap was sanctioned last month after Gabriel Simonian, who owns 3 per cent of the company, parted ranks with the rebels to create a 3-3 split on the board.

Mr. Scott, Tony Woodliffe and Mr Simonian are supporting Aerodata's bid, giving it 33 per cent of the voting

The rival faction, comprising Ralph Brown, John Turner and Alan Manning, supports Core Laboratories and controls 44 per cent of the

However, after a board meeting last night. Mr Scott said the divisions were close to breaking down, and that the share swap was being susended. The board would be likely to recommend Aerodata's bid, he said, if it offered more than 53p per share.

All three companies gather and process information about rocks for oil companies. Scott Pickford gathers infor-mation from the land, while Aerodata does so from aircraft and Core Laboratories specialises in processing the results. Core Laboratories, which is

listed on the Nasdaq exchange, is by far the largest of the three, with a market value of £115 million.

#### LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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of the company's creditors may a manufacture of Cork Gully, Berson House, 13 Kellingston Street Levis LS1 479 between 10 are and 5 pm on the two business days prior to the meeting. Corditors wishing to sole at the meeting study unless they are individual creditors attending a person. Indiv these propers at Cork Gully, Senson Muse, 33 Kellingston Street, Leeds LS1 477 and later than 12 soon on 16th paniary 1997. Plance nate that the unished propers were allowed and admitted for suites purposed within propers any be indeed and admitted for suites purposed while proofs may be indeed and admitted for suites purposed while proofs may be indeed and admitted for suites purposed while proofs may be indeed and admitted for suites purposed while proofs may be indeed and admitted for suites purposed while proofs any be indeed and the suite of the company commences, creditors intending to the legislation of their provider solution. In the conditions and that a credity and its according to the company is able to pay all the sections of their provider. Company is able to pay all the sections of their provider company is able to pay all the meating and the distribution. The company is able to pay all the meeting By Order of the Board, O; Willer Directs? Company 1997 which is the last the meeting By Order of the Board, O; Willer Directs? Company 1997 which is the last the meeting By Order of the Board, O; Willer Directs? Company 1997 While to pay all the meeting By Order of the Board, O; Willer Directs? Company 1997 While to pay all the meeting By Order of the Board, O; Willer Directs? Company 1997 which to pay all the meeting the pay of the pay of the direct pay of the pay of the

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1997
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F N PUTWAIN, Director

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PUBLIC NOTICES

#### WARNING **TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

OF THE SHOOTING OF BIRDS

Owing to the recent severe cold weather the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for Wales have made an Order probleming the shooting of birds on Schedule 2 Part I to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 anchaing wild ducks and geese) from 9,00am on Friday, 10 January until 9:00am on Friday, 24 innuary in England and Wales. Anyone who does not comply to commetting an offence.

Ref. No: E1460-01.EWD

#### LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & **PARLIAMENTARY** NOTICES

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## **Toad quits AIM** for main market

By Fraser Nelson

TOAD, the car security company, has become the second company to move from the Alternative investment Market to the official list, joining the main exchange with a value of El-L6 million.

Charles Parker, who joined the company as chief executive on Monday, said that the move was fuelled by a desire to attract more institutional support and to be listed on a more "respectable" market. Mr Parker, formerly com-mercial director of Charter, said that the switch was

essential to completing the raising of £7.1 million of funds. He added that much of the mones was raised on the provision that the company left the junior exchange. Mr Parker said: "Some of the institutions said they could not have so much as talked to us if we were not going on to the official list. The main market is properly regulated, it's where I come from, and I feel comfortable there."

Toad's shares have had a disappointing run on AIM. Placed at 115p 14 months ago, they have fallen almost without interruption, closing 12p

lower yesterday at 84½p.

Over the same period, the company has secured contracts worth £4 million, against the £3 million it struck in sales in its last financial

Cirqual, the specialist engineering company, moved from AIM to the full list last month, but did not raise any

#### Builder to home in on Irish market

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

ABBEY, the housebuilder, will expand in the Republic of ery in margins. Ireland this year, its chairman said yesterday.

The company, which is registered in Dublin but whose main operations are in the South East of England, reported pre-tax profits of IrE3.56 million (53.4 million) for the six munths to October, up from IrS million last time. Earnings per share grew to lr6.lop (lr5.19p).

Charles Gallagher, chairman, said that the improvement in the UK housing market that resulted in higher unit sales in the first half had

not yet prompted a full recov-Abbey sold 67 units in the Irish market in the first half and 200 in the UK. It planned to take advantage of its landbank and the booming

economy in the Republic to

build some 250 units in 1997-98. Mr Gallagher forecast an upturn for M&J Engineers, the UK plant hire business, the property rental division and said it was "the first time in many years" that all three business were expected to progress. The interim dividend is Ir2.2p, up 4.8 per cent and payable on February 18.

#### BOOK PROMOTION THE TIMES 1000 1997 £5 off cover price

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Martin Barrow is Deputy Business Editor of The Times.

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**BUSINESS ROUNDUP** 

CIA GROUP, Europe's second largest independent advertising media specialists, settled its legal dispute

yesterday with the ITV companies by agreeing to pay

them £1.8 million. The amount, equivalent to more than a

quarter of 1995's pre-tax profits of £6.7 million, will be

taken as a one-off charge in the 1996 profit and loss

account. The results for the year to December 31 are to be announced in March. Several ITV companies, including Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television and Granada, issued

writs against CIA in October, alleging a shortfall in

we are pleased that the agreement has finally been

reached, we are obviously disappointed about the impact, albeit one-off, on our profit record." CIA shares closed

CRH, the Irish building materials group, has spent Iri20.5 million on capital projects and acquisitions in continental

Europe and North America. These investments follow transactions totalling IrE405 million last year. CRH expanded its

DIY stores and its building supplies depots in The Netherlands.

It also acquired a Dutch manufacturer of glass rooflight

structures, a Dutch brick manufacturer and an il per cent stake

in a publicly quoted French builders merchant. In America, CRH acquired sand reserves in New Hampshire and a Quebe:

TBI, the property company that owns airports in Cardiff and

Beliast, is raising £49 million through the sale of The

Fountains office development in Brentford, Middlesex, to

Springlake Business. The property comprises 140,000 sq ft of offices in four buildings and 34,000 sq ft of business units. The property is worth about £47.9 million and generates

annual net rent of £4.3 million before interest costs. The

proceeds will be used to reduce debts on the asset and to

supplement cash resources. TBI negotiated a change to a

break clause in the lease with the tenant before selling

polymer concrete company and asphalt plants.

TBI sale nets £49m

**CRH** growth continues

The ITV companies threatened to withdraw credit lines and commission payments unless the dispute was resolved. Chris Ingram, chairman of CIA, said: "While

**CIA Group settles** 

dispute with ITV

spending by CIA's clients.

## Inflation forecasts bring pay warning

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

new pay forecast for 1997 says today. The forecast comes as a . new boardroom survey shows the continuing popularity of executive share options despite moves against them by the Government-backed Greenbury inquiry on top pay.

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The warning on pay comes from Incomes Data Services, the independent wage specialist, in its latest analysis of the second wage settlements. After the rise in the retail price index. IDS says today: The noturn in the rate of inflation to 27 per cent and the deterioration on the outlook for inflation over the coming year has put pressure on negotiators."

Suggesting that rising inflation is a "more difficult background" for pay bargaining, IDS details a range of Cay inflation forecasts, suggesting inflation will rise to between 2.8 per cent and 3.1 per cent in the first three months of this year, rising to 3.5 or even 4 per cent in the second half.

Higher interest rates are seen as the principal interest behind the expected rise in inflation. The IDS study says that, if such inflation forecasts prove correct, "then pay bergaining may be much tougher. in 1997 and pay settlements may be pushed higher by rising inflation". While it says that the overall trend on pay is

WAGE bargaining in Britain remaining steady with settle-is likely to be tougher this year in the face of rising inflation, a notes some "awkward" market pressures on pay. Though the settlement floor has dropped to 3 per cent or below, some deals are higher, such as the 7 per cent rise in the lock. latch and key industry.

On executive pay, a new study on incentive arrange-ments casts doubt on the implementation of the

The study, by the Monks Partnership remuneration advisers, suggests that the long-er-term incentive plans recommended by Greenbury are unlikely to replace the share option schemes, at least in the immediate feture. in the immediate future.

Surveying 4,500 boardroom jobs in a sample of 600 companies, the Monks study says that 90 per cent of companies still have share option schemes though 10 per cent have now ceased giving options to board directors. But the Monks study says that many of the alternatives to the share option plan are complex and potentially costly to administer. Share options may better meet the needs of

some companies." It says that there were some expectations that Greenbury would lead to a common appreach to incentive plans: "The effect has been the opposite and the diversity and complexity of plans continues to increase."



Peter Vardy, chairman, saw the company significantly outperform the market

#### Expansion at Vardy will create 250 jobs

By Fraser Nelson

REG VARDY, the innovative car dealer, is poised to create more than 250 jobs through a £15 million expansion plan designed to refurbish its dealerships and open more of its three-acre "supersites" for used cars.

The company is to spend £9 million developing its current sites and on expanding its exposure to Volkswagen, Jeep and Jaguar vehicles, which will create 100 jobs. It also plans to spend a further £6 million on opening three more supersites, which will create

between 150 and 180 jobs. Graeme Ports, chief executive, said the company aimed to expand in town centre sites. and was prepared to pay high premiums for the privilege. "We want to locate as close to the customer as we can," he said. You can buy an acre in the wilderness for a lot less than the sites we are looking at. We are taking an investment view."

formed the market in the six months to October 31, selling 36,000 cars - a 21 per cent lift against an industry average of 5 per cent. Stripping out the figure stood at 18 per cent at the half-way stage. Pre-tax profits were £8.2 million (£6.15 million), on sales of £345 million (£280 million). It opened two more supersites during the six months, making a total of five.

Vardy shares gained 23p yesterday, to a five-month high of 315 2p. Earnings were 10.7p (8.8p) per share, leaving an interim payout of 2.6p (2.25p), due on April 30.

#### **Druck profits static** DRUCK HOLDINGS, the electronic pressure and temperature

devices manufacturer, blamed the strengthening pound, an increase in overheads and lower gross margins for static pre-tax profits in the six months to September 30, 1996. Profits remained at £4.4 million and earnings per share fell from 4.31p to 4.18p. The interim dividend rose to 0.54p (0.5p). At the end of September outstanding orders were 29 per cent higher than at the same time last year. Export markets such as Eastern Europe, the Far East and India rose significantly, and exports now account for more than 80 per cent of turnover.

#### Paribas in sale talks

PARIBAS, the French financial holding company, is negotiating the sale of Credit du Nord, the domestic retail bank, to Societé Générale for Ffr2.2 billion, it was announced yesterday. The transaction will take place in two stages, with Société Générale initially acquiring a controlling interest and making a pledge to acquire the outstanding equity within three years. Paribas wishes to withdraw from retail banking and concentrate on international investment, merchant banking and specialised financial services.

## Boots tones up Italian presence in £4.1m deal

BY OUR CITY STAFF

BOOTS, the healthcare and retailing company, has acquired Farmila Dermical, a privately-owned Italian skincare business. for £4.1 million.

The business, with an annual turnover of \$2 million, is strong in the therapeutic areas of psoriasis, seborrhoek dermatitis and dry skin. With sales are worth about £2

Farmila Dermical includes Balta, Riaderm and Leviax among its brands. Total annual sales for Boots Healthcare in Italy will grow to more than £15 million on the acquisition of Farmila Dermical

Boots hopes to gain a 20 per cent share of Italy's therapeutic skincare market in the medium term through the Farmila Dermical deal, according to Barry Clare, managing direcor of Boots Healthcare international (BHI). That would bring the group's market share in Italy in line with its share of the market in France, where Boots acquired Laboratoires Lutsia for some £H5 million in September last year. Lutsia has sales of around £40 million in a market worth £200

Mr Clare said that he did not see any reason why the Boots group "should not achieve similar levels to France in Italy in the medium term." BHI already sells cold cure and painkiller products in Italy and hopes to add its own-brand E-45 skincare range to Lutsia's products to sell in the country, Mr Clare said. The E45 skincare range has around 60 per cent of the UK market but is not as well known as Lutsia's range in continental Europe. Mr Clare said its first new products for Italy would be launched in the spring.

BHI is still looking to buy interests in the German over-the-counter medicines market, Mr Clare added, along with any fill-in or complementary acquisitions.

"We want to be the leader for therapeutic skincare in Europe," he said, adding that the Boots group is already market leader in Britain. "With the Italian purchase, we have got the legs to exploit our product range in Europe," said Mr Clare.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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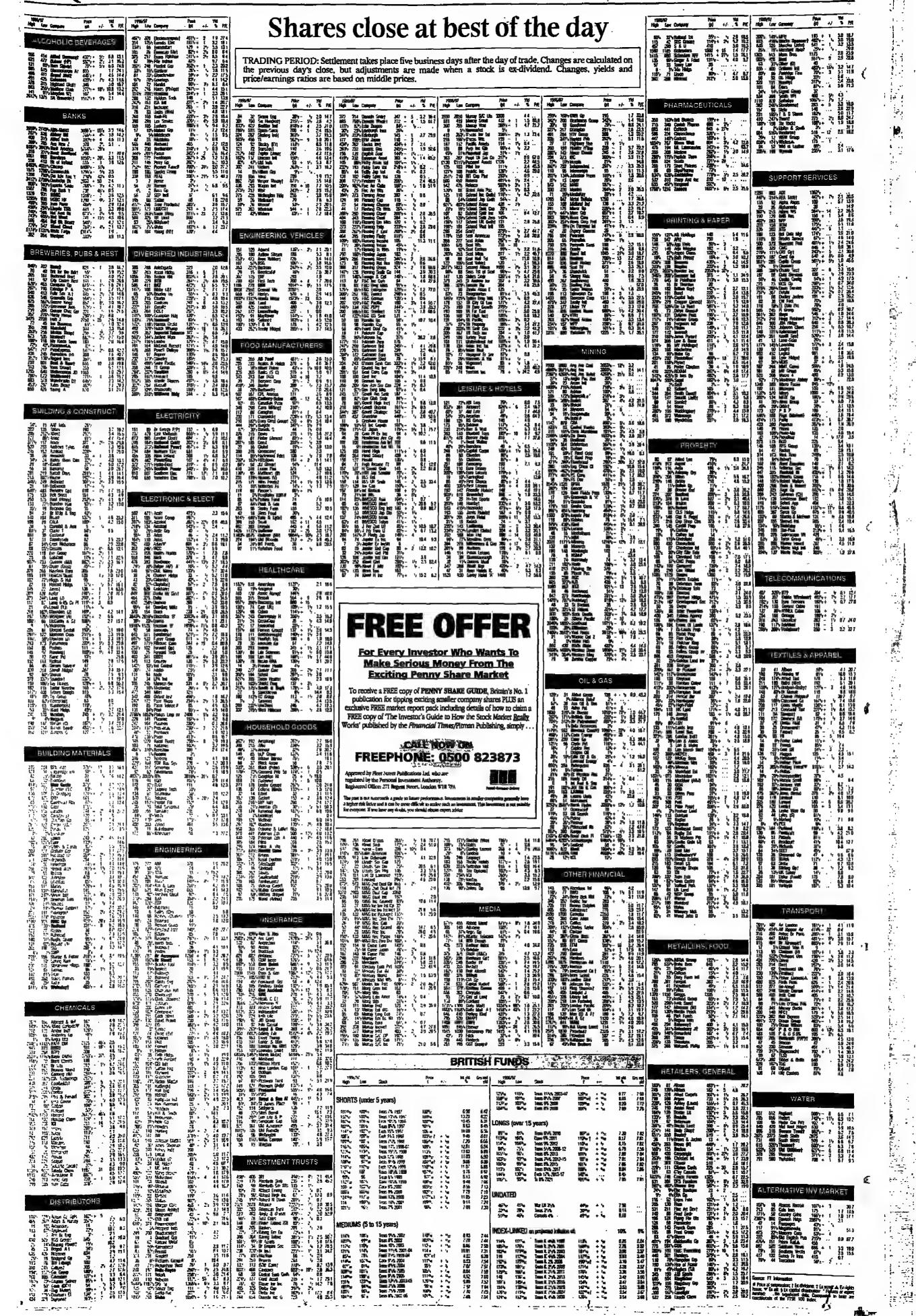
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POP 1 David Bowie turns 50, but does age matter any more in the music business?



POP 2 A mixture of bohemian chic and preening slobbishness how can Jonathan Fire Eater fail?





POP.3 Beenie Man shows the eclectic power of contemporary reggae on his

aptly named new

album, Maestro



■ POP 4

Not content with making their mark in politics. the Spice Girls are also enriching the English language



Still running for the shadows in his golden years. David Bowie is nevertheless a mere stripling when compared to some of those still in thrall to the rock'n'roll backbeat

## Rocking with the cavemen

In the week David Bowie turned 50, David Sinclair wonders

latest birthday. From lengthy magazine articles and weighty retrospectives on Radio 4 and BBC2 to respectful celebra-tions on fun-loving Radio 1. Bowie's "achievement" in reaching 50 has generated the kind of attention normally reserved for anniversaries of great pop festivals or momentous deaths. So why all the

While not unconnected to the fact that Bowie has a new album, Earthling, released next month, the hoopla surrounding his ascension to pop

what happened to the idea that pop was a young man's game seems strange to think of musicians in their fifties behaving like fully functioning

Bowie has done better at this than most. Many of his contemporaries from the 1970s have either died (Marc Bolan. Mick Ronson) or faded (Bryan Ferry, Ian Hunter of Mott the Hoople, Alice Cooper, Slade). Others, such as Elton John (who will be 50 in March) and Rod Stewart (who turns 52 today), have maintained their profiles by becoming family

ers like Cliff Richard and Neil Diamond than with the sounds of Britpop or the modern dance scene.

Bowie may have had some disastrous moments, but he has never completely lost touch. He plays hardly any of his old songs these days, and his most recent album, Outside, was his most confrontational work in many years. But perhaps this is not as surprising as it seems. The days when pop was perceived in much the same way as age of 30 — are clearly long gone. Noel Gallagher will be 30 this year. Stephen Jones of Babybird is 31, Jarvis Cocker 33, Shaun Ryder 34, Ian Broudie of the Lightning Seeds 37 and Paul Weller 38. No one is suggesting that any of them should be thinking of retirement. And, while veter-ans such as U2 (average age 35) and R.E.M. (38) have obviously been around a long time, no one is saving that they are too old for the job, per se.

For this, all rockers of a stoked by the fact that it still more in common with croon- the finishing line before the considerable debt of gratitude

> group is long past its prime.
>
> When you're in your midtwenties you've got something that you lose," Eric Clapton told O magazine when he was still only 41 (he turns 52 in March). "You've just got a certain amount of dynamism that you lose when you turn 30. You have to accept that, otherwise you're chasing a

> to the Rolling Stanes, who

have drawn a huge amount of

ageist flak at every stage of

their career over the past 20

years. Already into their thir-

ties when punk arrived, and

therefore written off as hope-

lessly over the hill even then,

the Stones have steadfastly

resisted the urge to cast off

their outlaw image and accept

the passage towards a graceful

middle age. Now in their mid-

fifties, they continue to push up the age at which it is

possible still to claim bona fide

most ardent Stones fan would

accept that creatively the

dream." Their energy may become dissipared, but do pop stars necessarily lose their creative abilities as they get older? Is the ageing process inextrica-bly linked with artistic (as opposed to popular) decline? Nothing could be further from the truth in other areas of the arts, so why should popular

music be any different? While many key performers such as Bob Dylan, Chuck Berry and Paul McCartney have drifted into an embarrassing artistic dotage, a surprising number of acts have seen their careers blossom in later years. At the age of 47 Lou Reed ended a long period

from strength to strength. In the same year Neil Young, then 44, released Freedom, an extraordinarily vigorous al-bum which heralded the start of a six-year purple patch. Tina Turner was a sprightly 46 when she made the most unlikely comeback of all with her album Private Dancer in 1984, while John Lee Hooker, now 75, has sold more records in his seventies than during

the rest of his career. There is no doubt that the engine of creativity in popular music is most efficiently driven by factors relating specifically to youth, in particular plus of raging hormones. In an industry obsessed with image and change, young acts are always going to be more of the moment than their older counterparts.

But still one can point to artists such as John Hiatt, Iggy Pop, Shawn Colvin, Van Morrison, Richard Thompson. Peter Gabriel, John Mellencamp, Norma Waterson, Steve Earle, Aerosmith. Joe Ely, Bruce Springsteen and Johnny Cash, all of whom have produced (and continue to produce) some of their finest work while languishing on the far side of 40.

thing deeper and more enduring than the manic thrill of younger pop. Many have drawn on the established traditions of folk, country and blues, but their musical vocabulary remains that of a generation that came up during the era of rock n'roll's primacy. Their continuing presence is gradually extending the musical and emotional range of pop, just as surely as the new performers who ensure its continuing vitality.

Their music offers some-

# Larging it? I should zigah-zigah

Those who live their lives by the vocabulary of pop music are fated to repeat it. Sounds fair to me

was a bit of a Reader's Digest grouple in my early teens. Presuming that It Pays to Increase You Word Power was the benchmark for all civilised conversation, I dutifully learnt all the words defined in this quiz over a period of five years. I now have a completely useless, arcane vocabulary, with a bias towards military slang from the Boer War, but which also embraces Corybantic

(manic and annoying, like a small kitten hanging from your nostril by one claw). cine that makes

you strong) and Lonk (it's a Lancastrian sheep). Music slang works in much the same way. Those who don't know what it means generally don't need to, but

have a vague, un-settling feeling that maybe they should. Luckly, there's al-ways the Ordord English Dictionary to come to the rescue of us all. Giving most new words five years to prove themselves, this year the OED rejected entries for "loungecore" and "Romo" - easy listening and the New Romantic revival and "lo-fi", the new catch-all description of what was once called "indie" music. Of course, all these are quite sensible words, compared with some of the slang you

Just as the Inuit have 57 different words for snow, because snow is all that there is in their lives, so musicians have 57 different words for cocaine, for much the same reason. Schnozz, Peruvian marching powder, charlie, nose ningle and Vim (the nickname of choice for the realistic). . Of course, there are those

who make it their business to be as obscure as possible. I recall, in my wilder years. being on a train with A Famous Band, drinking champagne and celebrating their new Top Ten hit by wearing a very silly tinfoil

One band member leant forward conspiratorially. and started singing a song couldn't recognise in a rather urgent way. Seeing my confusion, his bandmate explained: "He wants to know if you want to go to Wichita." As we were just pulling out of Doncaster station, and had chosen to catch this train in order to make it home for Police! Camera Action!, 1 merely kicked

him in a friendly way, and went back to balancing my head on the table. "No. no. no," he said, more urgently.
"You know - Wichita!
Wichita! The Wichita Lineman! Line, man."

To which, in a burst of thankful joy at having finally twigged, I yelled: "Oh, you mean cocaine!" At the request of other passengers. we subsequently moved to another carriage.

And as surely as night follows day, and dealers follow pop stars, so feeling a bit giddy and off follows

hour bender. This is why the second-largest pool of slang is devoted to being drunk. Trousered, larruped trollied, wedge gibboned, minged off me mon MORAN

- all trainee lush puppies (young drinkers) pick up the lingo as swiftly as they pick up their pints.

Of course, when you reach the latter stages of being "gattered", things tend to go a bit "pearshaped": you may end up snogging some "spenk" (ugly feller) and have to (ugly feller) and have to "lick him to the kerb" (get zid of him) when the "kriss" (huzaky and cool) guy you

ancy suddenly turns up.
The rise of Oasis has continued the trend for nationwide adoption of Mancunian siang, which started with the success of Happy Mondays and the Stone Roses. The "munted" (ugly fellers) may take comfort in the fact that, if in possession of "Gailaghers" (large eye-brows), they may still be able to pull "Skanking" — a term originally used to describe the clipped rhythm guitar in reggae — is now being widely mouthed.

In Manchester it means standing someone up, while in the Midlands it's something generally "bobbins", or rubbish. Dance lingo, on the other hand, has become over-used: "Top one!" "Sorted", "Larging it" and "Massive" just make most people wince. But "cool" is still

The main new entrant into language in the last year, however, has been provided by the Spice Girls. Zigah-zigah is the "Super-califragilisticexpialidocious" of the Nineties - a word to cover every situation, particularly occasions when you would like to swear, but the company is too polite.

## **ENJOY A FREE DAY**

## AT A HEALTH CLUB

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER --- THE SEE TIMES

To coincide with the launch of our Discovery Diet Guide. The Times has teamed up with LivingWell and other leading health clubs to offer you up to six free visits to any of the participating clubs. a list of which will be printed again

tomorrow. The offer allows you to use the same facilities at the health clubs as those enjoyed by full members. Simply present the voucher below when you go for your pre-booked visit.

Readers who take up this offer will be entered into a prize draw with a chance to win an annual health club membership to your chosen club. There are memberships worth £40,000 to be won.



#### THE TIMES FREE HEALTH CLUB DAY MEMBER SHIP YOU CHER AND PRIZE DRAW ENTRY DAY 5

health clubs listed in The Times on January 6 and 11, 1997. This voucher also acts as a prize draw entry coupon for the chance to win a free membership for a year to the winner's chosen health club. There are annual memberships worth a total of £40,000 to be won. The offer is valid until Friday February 28.

1997. This date is also the closing

date for entry to the prize draw.

This voucher entitles the bearer to a

free day's membership at one of the

TERMS AND CONDITIONS 1 The offer is subject to availability. 2 Readers must book their visits in advance by telephone and state that they are using The Times offer. 3 This voucher must be presented when you turn up on the day, 4 The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer 5 There will be additional charges for therapies. Please check what is included in the offer at the time of booking.

If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from organisations carefully

TERMS AND CONDITIONS 1. The offer is valid until February 28, 1997 2. Your tree west; a must be booked in advance by telephone quoting The Times offer 3. The printed voucher(s) must be presented to the club when you make your visit(s). 4. Each voucher is only valid for one free visit. 5. A maximum of six free visits are allowed per reader. 6. No photocodes will be accepted. 7. The offer is subject to availability. 8. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. 9. There may be additional charges if you wish to book beauty treatments. 10. It is advisable to confirm what facilities are included in the offer at the time of booking.

selected by The Times please box

CHANGING TIMES

## Cheesy taster but no extras

TOP TENA BIOLS

JONATHAN FIRE EATER Tremble Under Boom Lights Deceptive BLUFF 038CD.

THERE is a certain left-field. bohemian approach to rock in roll that only bands from New York seem able to carry off. The Cramps used to be pretty good at it. Royal Trux still have it in spades, the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion have taken it to wild extremes.

Despite their unpromisingy tedious name. Jonathan Fire Eater display something of the same wasted outsider chic on their five-track minialbum. Tremble Under Boom Lights.

Singer Stewart Lupton has an instantly charismatic style, combining the preening slobbishness of Mick Jagger with the Gothic punk dramatics of Iggy Pop and Nick Cave. Give me daughters, he yelps in a way that most parents would not find reassuring, despite his subsequent promise that he would "raise them to go to church with me". The album's art-school ga-

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from The Times Music Shop on 03-45-023 498

rage band produc-tion is given a distinctive twist by

the cheesy organ sound of Walter Martin and drummer Matt Barrick's fidgety tom tom beats, and while hardly a revelation, it could easily turn out to be a taster for great things to come. But don't waste time looking for the "bonus track" promised on both disc and sleeve. It doesn't

BEENIE MAN Maestro (Greensleeves GRELCD234,

BRISTLING with vitality and touched by a wonderfully madcap sense of humour, Beenie Man's second internationally released collection could not offer a greater contrast to the downbeat, gan-

Failing Into You..... Blue is the Colour,

Everything Must Go...

Ocean Drive..

Travelling Without Moving..

ja-fuelled albums that used to dominate the reggae charts in the 1980s.

Still only 22, Beenie (Jamaican for weeny) was a child prodigy who cut his first album in Jamaica when he was ten. His hoarse, dancehall rap delivery has echoes of Shaggy's "boombastic" style, but Maestro has a far greater reach, both musically and in terms of its subject-matter, than just about any other contemporary reggae album

that comes to mind. Switching between cheekily boastful rhymes about his overactive love life and hardhitting hymns to the power of black spirituality, the album incorporates everything from the supper-club swing of Nuff Gal to the loopy, pseudo-operatic declarations of the

Ceffine Dion (Epic)
Ceffine Dion (Epic)
Ceffine Dion (Epic)
Ceffine Soundtrack (Wamer Bros)
G. Jamiroqual (Sony Stormers) (Wild Card)
Lighthouse Family (Wild Card)

Spice Girls (Virgin)

Space Jam (Warner Sunset/Atlantic 7567-82961, £15.49) A PART-LIVE action, part-

VARIOUS ARTISTS

title track. Whatever else he

may be, when it comes to the

diversity of his music, Beenie

animated movie about basketball, starring Bill Murray and Bugs Bunny, Space Jam is already a phenomenal success in America, where this soundtrack has produced new hit singles for Seal, R. Kelly and the Quad City DJs.

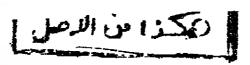
Featuring a host of R&B and. hip-hop stars, including LL Cool J. Salt-N-Pepa and Coolio, the album is a quintessentially American experience. Numbers such as Basketball Jones (a lugubrious rap by Barry White and Chris Rock) and the title track (a cheerleader-type, hip-hop chant about "slamming" and waving your hands in the air) sound rather out of their element when divorced from the film, which is heading our way in the spring. Perhaps it will make better sense then.

Fugees (Columbia)

Menic Street Preachers (Epic)

Kula Shaker (Columbia)

Simply Red (East West) DAVID SINCLAIR ● World music and blues album reviews. Page 3#



THE TIMES I RIDAY JANUARY

Larging in I should Zigah-Zigah

Thanks who live their lives by was and any of pup music are the Figure 1! !! Sounds fair to



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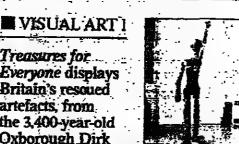
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Treasures for . Everyone displays Britain's rescued artefacts, from the 3,400 year-old Oxborough Dirk

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 10:1997



VISUAL ART 2

.. to work by Georg Baselitz, Van Dyck and a whole host of Masters, old and new



مكذا من الأصل



THEATRE

Liberal conscience: divisions between rich and poor. perennial themes are tackled in The Fever



■ MUSIC

Mendelssohn at the double: Birmingham hears both piano concertos in an evening







Saved for the nation by the National Art Collections Fund, at a price (clockwise from top left) Da Vinci's Studies of a paw of a wolf or dog (c 1490); Van Dyck's Princess Elizabeth and Princess Anne (1637); Renoir's La Place Clichy (c 1880)

offered Velazquez's masterpiece to the nation, the asking price was a colossal £45,000. How on earth was the National Gallery to raise such a fortune, nine times more than its:

annual acquisitions grant? The answer came from a doughty cluster of collectors, curators and critics, including Roger Fry and the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. Two years before, united in their alarm over the exodus of the country's treasures, they had bend-ed together to found the National Art Collections Fund. And the threatened loss of the Rokeby Venus showed how effective they could be. Within a short time, all the money for the work was raised. Four years after this spectacular coup the fund scored another by saving Holbein's Christina of Denmark from imminent export.

Since then the fund has grown into Britain's biggest art charity. Every year it plays an indispensable part in helping museums and other public collections throughout the country to purchase outstanding objects. More than 100.000 works of art now on view in the UK have been acquired with the fund's

## ant to save a treasure?

recent saving of the Becket casket proved, they include many items inextricably bound up with our national history.

To celebrate these achievements,

Christie's is staging a resplendent exhibition of works saved by the fund. Concentrating on objects acquired since 1980, the selection includes treasures from more than 50 collections and reveals their astonishing variety. They range in date from the Oxborough Dirk, a remarkably refined Bronze Age ceremonial weapon made around 1400 BC, to an ecuberant abstract triptych painted by Gillian Ayres in 1990. The fund is open-minded in its response to old and new alike, and is now enjoying an exceptional-ly successful period. Membership has leapt by more than 40 per cent in the past two years, helping to ensure a record £2.73 million in

grants made during 1995. But there is no room for complacency. Key works have continued to leave the country since the fund's inception, including the sole painted portrait of Henry VIII securely attributed to Holbein himself, in

As the spectacular fruits of its efforts go on show in London, Richard Cork finds out how Britain's biggest art charity sets about saving works from export

entire cost of anything, the fund finds itself today in still greater 1962 the great Leonardo Cartoon of

the Virgin and Child with St Anne was put up for sale by the Royal Academy, and secured for the National Gallery only after a prolonged, agonising campaign in which the fund played a central role. But if the Academy ever decided to sell its Michelangelo sculpture, even the most tenacious cash-raising initiative might well fail to prevent this superlative carving from export.
So the fund is, if possible, even

more important now than it was at the beginning of the century. National Lottery money has certainly helped to save some marvellous works, not least the beautiful double-sided ink drawing by Mar-co Zoppo purchased last year by the British Museum for £445,000. But since the lottery cannot provide the

demand to make up the shortfall.

Just how well it has helped to enrich the nation's collections is demonstrated throughout the Christie's show. In 1984 Manchester City Art Gallery bought a wonderfully impassioned Crucifixion attributed to Duccio with the aid of £500,000 from the fund. This powerful painting enables a major regional collection to show early Siennese art at its height. And the Tate Gallery acquired an equally intense 20th-century painting when purchased Max Beckmann's claustrophobic, suspenseful Carni-

with the fund's help in 1981. European painting is displayed to best effect in the Great Room. Here Wright of Derby's flickering yet sternly constructed The Iron Forge holds its own with companions as formidable as Poussin's The Triumph of Pan, a tour de force of orgiastic excitement defined with the steely authority of an arch-

ot all the paintings in this room show artists at their best. Claude's The Adoration of the Golden Calf relies to a disappointing extent on its stilted figures, and compares very poorly with the same artist's sublime, infinitely mysterious The Enchanted Castle near by. But nobody could argue about the spellbinding quality of El Greco's shadowy, sensual and tantalising canvas known only as An Allegory, while among the portraits Nicholas de Largillière's

Ann Throckmorton as a Nun is a

quiet miracle of 18th-century French painting at its most subtle and sympathetic.

The Throckmorton canvas, purchased by the National Trust for £350,000 in 1991, is also an excellent example of the fund's belief in retaining objects whenever possible in their original settings. Largillière's portrait is preserved at Coughton Court, the Throckmorton family home. It makes far more sense there than in an anonymous museum, and for the same reason Charles Rennie Mackintosh's ebonised pine table with pearl inlay has been acquired by Hill House, the innovative family home he designed in Helensburgh

By disclosing the prices of almost everything on display, the exhibi-tion's catalogue reminds us that nothing goes cheap un the art market today. Even the Mackintosh table cost a princely £200,000. and the Becket casket was eventually sold to the Victoria and Albert Museum for a head-spinning £4.2 million. All the same, the show also proves that delightful things can be

bought for far less vertiginous sums. Four Years ago an unusualiv early ink drawing by Stanley the enterprising Spencer Gallery in Cookham. The fund donated a third of the price.

On the whole, though, important art costs a daunting amount. Now that privately owned paintings by the finest masters are so rare, their drawings can fetch the kind of figures that would have been unimaginable to collectors in the past. When Rubens's virile ink and chalk portrait of the Earl of Arundel came up for sale in 1943. the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford was confronted by the awesome task of raising £900,000. With so little money at its own disposal, the chances of acquiring such a consummate likeness of a great English collector must have seemed slender. But with the fund's assistance, this brayura example of European draughtsmanship is now safely ensonneed at Oxford within reach of us all.

• Freasures for Everyone is at Chris tic's, 8 King Street, London SW | qtTl-830 (000) until Jan 20 Tull membership of the National Art Collections Fund (071-225 4800) costs 525, and offers many benefits including free admission to more than 170 museums, gulleries and historic houses

### The burden of being well-off

aged beggar : stretches out a Blair, earnest

addressing the causes of poverty apparently describe a world where the combine with a belief in "zero cultured are destroyed in the tolerance, and he withholds, repression that follows the his munificence. On the evidence of this one-person play. Wallace Shawn's reaction would be rather different. His moral life would flash beforehim, and a weird mixture of s resentment and self-loathing alternately clutched dollars to his bosom and flung them to the winds. The beggar would

shelter for the night Yet Shawn's own affliction. which is a bad case of liberalremorse, begins to trouble me. How can I be flippant about the chasms between the wellfee and the hungry? The monologue's answer is simple. The haves will do anything from defensive jokes about the poor to congratulating themselves on their charitable instincts, from convincing themselves that luck of birth is divine justice to using torture configures against the have and ended up accusing herself of being and intending to nos.

TEATER The Fever thoughts about Ambassadors

nated Mourner, in which three actors at a table rising of a raging underclass.

The Canadian actress Clare Coulter sits on a chair and, her quiet, incisive voice occasionally breaking into a snarl or sardonic cackle, evokes the night that a combination of would come pouring out as he guilt and bitterness at feeling guilt drove her into a long-brewing breakdown.

Does it sound as if some Manhattan Marxist is launchprobably end up finding him ing into a drab parody of one of Edward Bond's dramatic sermons? Thanks to Coulter's beautifully judged perfor-mance and the articulate yet confused passions of the text. the effect is far more searching. This is a nice woman from a nice background who has visited impoverished countries, rejected the rationalisations for the economic inequality she has seen, realised that she would still resist any social change that threatchambers - to protect their ened her civilised pleasures.



judged performance

remain "irredeemably cor is it merely a sign of

privileged defensiveness to pick holes in Shawn's case? No, for he divides the world too rigidly into rich and poor, as if no in-betweens were muddling along. He is also absordly at edds with modern history, in and out of his native America, when he suggests that serious economic progress is impossible. Yet he and his actress touch a selfdisgust that many of us try to suppress. Why don't I do more for that child in the Oxfam ad, that man in the Amnesty pamphlet? How can I face being me while they are them?

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE to articulate their sadness,

## A meal with three starters

ONE way to explain it would be to refer to the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's recording schedules. Another way would be to claim that there is still room for eccentricity, and that if a conductor wants to combine three Weber overtures with two Mendelssohn piano concertos he can do it.

Whatever the motivation behind Lawrence Foster's Symphony Hall programme, it worked. With two or three more Weber overtures at the end, instead of Hindemith's Symphonic Metamorphoses on Themes of Carl Maria von Weber, it would have been

IF IT is simpler to make an impact with new music than to set oneself against a per forming tradition, then Alexander Taylor made a perfect entrance, playing with his elbow. Frederic Rzewski's Winnboro Cotton Mill Blaes is unfamiliar rather than new, but Taylor drove its machinelike rhythms with conviction.

His was an intelligently balanced programme: a premiere of Marina Adamia's assured Five Pieces for Piano, Martin Butler's lively Sonata and Anthony Payne's simple yet mesmerising Song Without End. Finnissy's "recollections" of two Gershwin songs made for a haunting ending, though Taylor was too limpid

CONCERTS

CBSO/Foster Birmingham

nossibly even more effective. In between came Stephen Hough's brilliantly stylish performances of Mendelssohn's Piano Concertos, in G minor and D minor. In the last movement of the G minor, Hough risked enough to make it seem as if it might run off the rails at any moment - an illusion but no less thrilling for that. The pianist found

PLG Young Artists Purcell Room

The repertoire most testing to a player's artistry is surely the second-rate, which was the challenge facing the guitar duo, the Katona brothers. Stars of the evening, these identical Hungarian twins kept the audience rapt throughout Piazolla's lightweight Tango Suite and Judith Bingham's slight Santa Casa. Here, as in every piece, the delicate perfection of the Katonas' playing electrified the music. The full extent of their art was only on display in Leo Brouwer's wonderful Per Suonare a Due. The work

much romantic interest, too in the first movement of the D minor Concerto. But not even he could deflect the suspicion that Mendelssohn left himself too little time to complete the

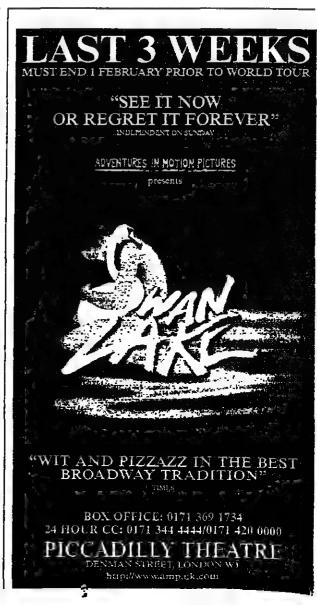
work. The idea with the three comparatively minor Weber overtures was evidently to make a suite of them. The quality of Foster's interpretation was in the inspired melodic phrasing above all, but also in his promotion of the rhythmic vivacity which distinguishes Weber's music at any period in his career.

GERALD LARNER

moves from a tangled atonal skein to a hilarious dialogue between the two guitars.

The intense ensemble between the Katonas is irresistible in contrast to the piano/cello duo who shared the concert. Jamie Walton and Daniel Grinwood's programme was tough by any standard, including Colin Matthews's Three Enigmas and Schnittke's Sonata No L Walton progressed through the Matthews like an athlete. but was too physically involved to delve into its mysteries. His beautiful tone in William Walton's solo Passacaglia showed his true potential.

HELEN WALLACE





**CHOICE 1** 

Opening weekend for the London International Mime Festival

VENUES: Across London; see below for details



CHOICE 2

Yehudi Menuhin conducts the LPO in romantic masternieces

VENUE: Sunday at the Barbican

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scapairs of salarius by detailed salari base and Molane Jordan, employes the mathematical chaos theory. Wasis by Dean Cloogh Arillets can be seen in the Someton Gallony while the Design House Gallety is enhanced the RSA

MANCHESTER The pracest Joanna MacGregor barns up with the

the first late-right concert in the Sound Circus series. An extent o programme includes masse by 36

LONDON GALLERIES

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Anthony of Offiny, Arcelm Rafer — I hold All Indus in My Hand (0371–399 4100) British Museum Japanese Arts (0171–638 1555) Design Museum Doing a Disort (0171–578 655) Feetfeal Halli The Scienc Eye Vicual Art and the Treate (0171–578 0424) National Manning Rubers a Landscapes (5171–747 2895) Boyal Academy The Folio Society 50th Academy Rasads (0171–639 7438) Talle Works from the Ted Power Collection (6171–527 8000) W & A American Precognity 1890–1955 (0171–93 2495-9441)



CHOICE 3

Pianist Joanna MacGregor leads the avant-garde fun at the SoundCircus VENUE: Bridgewater Hall. Manchester, tomorrow



**ALBUMS** 

collection of songs

LONDON INTERNATIONAL INNE FESTIVAL. An orbitating programme of visual and physical theatre begins omorraw and runs until January 26 a venues ecrose the capital, including the South Bank, BAC ICA and Grous South bank, But, ICA and Cross. Space Highlights art to BAC include Bancanew Teatro del Carrotto's manoretto viction of Snow Whee and the Oddoodes with their hysterical adaptation of Richard III. The reshed

adaptation of Richard III The restried opens at the Purcell Room with Comparging Messours Borde performing The List Hallycanalisms of Lucas Cranach An enceptional line-up includes the London psemiera of Gavin Robertson's and Andy Taylor's Edinburgh hir Parliastical Voyage and a clown version of Romae and Liter by Théâtre le Ranelagh from Pens Miline Frestlyel information only (0171-637-5661) Box Office numbers South Barth (0171-96) 42421 BAC (0177-223 223) ICA (0171-99) 43431 Group (0171-613 4141)

MUSIC MAESTROS Tonight, at 7 30pm, Yan Pascal Torbiles conducts the National Youth Orchesian of Great Britain and Howard Shelloy. piano, in Szymanowski o romantić Concert Overture, Rachmaninovis concert cleaning in agrandation of paganini and Prokohev's Suite from Roman and Juliet On Sunday at

ALL OF YOU MINE TO refurbished the site, in a pub renamed the Finge and Firlan (goddin') re-opens with a new play by the excellent Richard Cameron, set in a Yorkshire mining village where as usual, guilty secrets emerge. Sman Usher directs Bush, Shepherds Bush Green. W12

ELSINORE. Robort Lepage's asionishing performance as Hamlet and everyone else in his imaginative, tochrisally inventive production. National (Lytlefton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Last performances today and fornorrow 7 30pm mat Sat

I MARRY MEALITTLE CONT gathering of Sondherm out-takes, agreeably sung by Rebecce Front and Olive Cartor in a 65-minute show Bridewell, Bride Lane EC4 (0171-996) 3456) Last performances roday and fornorrow, 7 30pm mar Sat. 4 30pr

THE OFFICIAL TRUBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS Anothor Wiki End showing for the cult songlest by gurs in black glasses. David Leland directs Apollie, Shaffedbury Ave. W1 r0171-494 5070 Mon-Thurs, Sprn, Fn and Sat, Sprn and Sprn. Until January 18 SCHOOGE Anthony Newley back on the West End stage singing the title role in the Lestie Brousse musical.

BEYOND THE CLOUDS (18) Four

. THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES Saless marriage With Jolf Bridges Octeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Laicester Square (01426-915 683) Marble Arch (01426 914901) Series Cottage (01426 914098) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0990 882990) Virgin Chelsea (0171 352 5096)

ROBINSON IN SPACE (FG) (Asia

WEEKEND CHOICE A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Manny

London Philhamoric Orchestia in throp classic lavouries. Fantasia on a

more classic expenses armanae on a Thems of Thomas Talks by Vaughan Williams, Bruch's Violin Concerto (soloet Ralat Zambrzyck-Payne), and Elgan's Engma Variations Barbican, Sik Stroot, EC2 (0171-639 8831) Tonight and Sunday, 7 Jüpm (§) ELSEWHERE

EDINELIPICH Les Beifes Trocledero de Monte Carlo performs is recastibly turny parodes of classics such as Paputa and Shan Lake Edinburgh Festival. Nicoton Street

7 30pm by HALIFAX. The 25th Lating Seascape and I madecage competition is one of HALIFAX: The 25th Lating Beascape and Landecape competition is one of six exhibitions opering formariow at the Dean Clough Galleries. In A House and a Heed Tom Wood further develops his exploration of the figure through his noth-restured paintings. The Contenence Gallery is showing paintings by John Gledhill, entitled Night and Day on the subject "men", while Frectal Lock, a

Dominion Tottonham Court Road WI (0171-636-2295) Mon-Sut, 7-30pm, mals Thurs, Sat, 3pm

Rayerhal's powerful drama about a distressed generation, noticed by economic and sizual abuse, returns for low weeks. Mar Stallord-Clark directs Circle Spece, Royal Court Theatre Upstains at the Ambessedors, West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sal. 8 45pm. Unit February 1

D A STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE

Comedy, Parton Street, SNP1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, dominate Theirs THEATRE GUIDE

THOLLIS AND CRESSIDA IN Judge's busy production, Victoria Hamilton's Gressida and some other House full, returns only performances entiren a long evening Barbloan, Sir Steet, EC2 (0171-638 8691). Today and tomorrow. Form mac Sat, 1 30pm. In rep. Seats at all prices

EJ WHO'S AFRUID OF VERGINIA WOOLF Dans Rigg and Dand Suchet in Howard Danied's powerful Amenda production of 406e's searing play. Alderyott, Archives 18/22 (6:771-416 6003). Men Sar, 7 focient mass Wed and Sar, 2 foom Until March 22.

LONG RUNNERS ☐ Stood Brothers Proster :0171-369 1733). ☐ The Complete Works of William Shekespeere (Abridged) Change (0171-359 1737; ☐ Don't Dress for Dinner Duchess (0171-498 5070) Greese Cambridge (0171-494 5080) El An Inspector Cella Gamck (0171-484 5085 . Johnn Samok (0711-444 5000) . ☐ Joe Inclone Palace (0171-934 1317) ☐ Martin Guerre. Phoce Edward (0171-447 5400) ☐ Colvert Palacium (0171-445 5020) ☐ Startight Express. Applic Victor

Jesons Lange makes her West End debut in Poter Half's production of the Ternessee Waterro classor. Theatre Royal, Haymarker SWI (0171-930-8800). Mon-Sat, 7-45pm\* Sistriight Express Aposo Victoria (0171-416-6054) E The Woman i Black Forume (0171-836-2238) mate Thurs and Sat, 3pm ☐ TALKING HEADS: Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyzeck performing two monologues written and directed by Alan Reposit Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

STARMAICER (18) Regue fleeces Sicilians with hopes of screen work. Dawdling drama from Criteria Paradiso ABC Sheftosbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) Metro (0171-437 0757) Virgin CURRENT

 MATILDA (PG) Exuberant telling of Roald Dahl's subversive tale about a precoclous gri (Mars Wilson) who Odeon Series Cottage (01426 914098: UCI Whiteleys (2) 10990 888990! Virgins: Chebses (0171-252 5090: Trocaders (2) (0171-434 9003) Winness (0171-472-474)

 101 DALMATIANS (U) Glove Class Finds aposts of the dogs in the live-action edition of the cartioon classes. With Jeff Camels and Jook, Figurgost Square :01425-915 633:

Marble Arch (01426 914501) Mazzanina (5) (01426 915683) Swise Cottage (01436 914996) UCI Whiteleys (5) (099) 98399) Virginas Chelleris (0111-352 9095 Fullisan Road (0171-370 2636)

• 91 FEPERS : 15/r Felorm serred

nmales evenge thomselves on a sadskic guard. Overblown take with an 6148i Clapham Picture House (0171-498 322) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Marbie Arch (01425 714501) Swins Cottage (01425 714936) Ritay (0171 737 313) UCI Whiteleys (299-983 990) Virgins: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) Haymarket (0171-339 1537) Trocadero ∰ (0171-434 0031, Warner ∰ (0171-437 4343)

\* SHIVIVING PICANIO : U Anthony Hapkins as 9 casivo me womanises, as receipting 95 cultian umpyrroamete hero Minema (447°-235 4215) Odeon Swiss Cottage (4171-565 3357; Minema (4171-235 4225-Renoir 0171-8**3**7 3402: **Ritay** : 0171-737 21. **Screen on Baker Street** - 0171-725

dition alive today is guitarist his impressive songwriting skills allied with mature vocals and some stunning



Tarika mark a grim African anniversary with a hauntingly beautiful

Tarika create a special kind of harmony with their new album, says Nigel Williamson

## African war and peace

brutally suppressed an uprising in Madagascar using Senegalese troops. An estimated 80,000 people died, many more were tortured and a legacy of racism lives on to this day. The Senegalese have been demonised and Malagasy parents routinely warn their childeren that unless they behave, "the blacks" (west Africans are darker-skinned than most local tribes) will eat them alive.

On the anniversary of these tragic events, an extraordinary musical project bringing together Malagasy

WORLD MUSIC

ed to heal the wounds of history. Last year Hanitra Rasoanaivo, the Londonbased singer whose band Tarika has enjoyed considerable success across America and Europe with its warm. lilting African rhythms, returned home to learn more about her past.

"I'd never done anything like this before," says Rasoanaivo. "I was just happy making music. But as I developed as a songwriter, I discovered that certain subjects were taboo and I wanted to sing about them."

She travelled to the remotest parts of Madagascar, collecting stories of the 1947 uprising from eye-witnesses and the archives. What she discovered goes to the heart of racism and exploitation everywhere. "My grandmother, my grandfather, my aunts and uncles all told me the story when I was small and I was really scared. If you are bad the Senegalese will come and eat you. It was the classic colonial divide and rule tactic. If it is blacker than you, it is nasty and inhuman and does these terrible things. I had to investigate the story behind this."

The resulting album, Son Egal, is a remarkable collection of songs, haunting and moving in its plea for reconciliation and tolerance, tough and clear-sighted in its condemnation of corruption and racial hatred. Simon

LOUISIANA isn't necessarily the first place to look for the blues: Chicago and Memphis both stake stronger claims. Yet as the collection Deep Blues (Ace CD-CHD 604) shows, producer J.D. Miller was, in the 1950s and early 1900s, able to gather together a superb roster of so called "swamp blues" artists including Lightnin' Slim. Slim Harpo, Lazy Lester and Whispering Smith. The mixture of nasal, Jimmy Reed-like vocals and brilliant harp blowing is irresistible.

Keeping the Louisiana tra-

to the family house. There is still no running water. "It is a very traditional, basic life," she says. "Madagascar is world, brought to its knees by corrupt

politicians and businessmen." Some-how she was given an education. studied languages at university and ended up working as a translator at the Madagascar Embassy in London. Six. years ago, friends heard Rasoanaivo and her sister Noro singing in the kitchen and suggested that they take up music professionally. At first they laughed, but a band, initially known as Tarika Sammy (the now shortened name means simply "the group"), took shape. Swiftly their blend of shimmering five-part harmonies, traditional instruments and energetic rhythms established Tarika as one of the hits of

Tarika have brought together Senegalese and Malagasy musicians in a bid to heal the wounds of history

the roots music scene from America to Japan. in Europe the album looks set to become one of the surprise successes of the year. In Madagascar it is certain to stir up huge controversy. "I heard some incredible stories from

people who had been harshly tor-tured," says Rasoanaivo. "A lot of people told me not to do the album. My parents thought I was mad and it's going to stir a lot of things up. But I had to do it. We've been keeping this hatred inside ourselves and it is time for reconcilization."

• Son Egal, by Tarika is released on Xenophile (XENO/012) on Monday John Whitefull continue to

SLEA

Sept of Market

## Sounds of the swamp

blues licks on his la Baton Rouge (Verve Gitanes 529 467-2). But if it's Chicago you still hanker after, then veteran harp player Little Mack Simmons is your man. A club fixture for years, he has never sounded so good as he does on High & Lonesome (St George STG 7704), a remarkable homage to the early days of postwar Chicago blues.

Emmerson of the Afro-Celt Sound

System was recruited to produce the

album, and in a symbolic act of

reconciliation, members of the band led by Senegalese star Baaba Maal

The album is the most impressive

chapter yet in Rasoanaivo's rags to

riches story. Home was very poor and only now, with the proceeds of her

success, is she able to supply electricity.

Go clubbing today, and ter artists such as W.C. Clark and Albert Washington, who combine soul and blues. Guitarist Clark played behind

NEW BELIES ALBUMS

clutch of new releases, the best of which is the debut by stars like Stevie Ray Vaughan, but moves centre stage for vocalist Earl Green, who uses Texas Soul (Black Top BT1131) a variety of sidemen including US guitarist Joe Louis Walker and provides the best version of Willie Nelson's Funny How and Surbiton harmonica star Time Slips Away since fellow Lee Sankey, for an atmospher-Texan Joe Hinton back in the ic and adventurous set, Feel 1960s. It is also good to see the The Fire (Abacabe ABACA CD002). Runners up are Paul return of Washington, on Step Lamb and The Kingsnakes it Up and Go (Iris ICD1005). an album newly distributed with She's A Killer (Indigo) over here. He cut a string of IGOCXD 503), on which blues great singles a decade or so harp maestro Lamb and the ago, and has lost none of vastly underrated guitarist

reinforce the band's already considerable reputation. Finally, an American insti-The thriving British blues

tution. The Drifters and their King, have received the red scene is celebrated with a carpet treatment from Sequel records with a 15-volume anthology of their work, stretching from the Clyde McPhatter glory days of the early 1950s (RSA CD 803) and cuts like Money Honey, through the Under The Boardwalk years (RSA CD 834), up to King's collaboration with the Aver-1970s (RSA CD 856). Plaudits here for compiler and researcher Peter Burns.

JOHN CLARKE

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## We need to assist children not parents

he survey reported in *The Times* this week of families whose daughters hold assisted places at Girls Public Day School Trust schools was clearly intended to encourage the Labour Party to think again about abolishing the Assisted Places Scheme. But it is likely to have the opposite effect. By highlighting the case of a girl who has accepted an assisted place at Birkenhead High School when she had been offered a place at a local state school with comparable academic results, the survey exposed

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the scheme's fundamental weakness. Taxpayers' money is being used to fund a parental preference for an independent school when there is a perfectly good state school on their doorstep. I am all for parental choice but I do not see why I. should pay school fees for other people's children unless their educational needs cannot be met in the schools that my taxes

are already funding.

There is nothing wrong in principle with the State buying places at independent of the state buying places. dent schools. It happens without contro-versy in many countries. But from the taxpayers' point of view it makes sense only if the places are used to enhance pupil

opportunity not just to extend parental choice. An Assisted Places Scheme can be justified only if it complements what the state system has to offer. The present scheme does not do that. There is no objective assessment of whether the child needs to move schools.

I do not blame parents for taking advantage of the scheme. Their overriding concern is to get the best education for their child. But the scheme would be so much more acceptable to the taxpayer and so much less vulnerable to political swings if it was seen to be based on the needs of the child.

In the early days it was possible to argue that in some areas the scheme did complement what was available in the state system because the independent schools involved were academic highflyers. To give a bright child from a disadvantaged area an assisted place at Manchester Grammar School or the North London Collegiate School would seem to be a reasonable use of public funds to most people. Why waste talent when the means to develop it are at hand? But in recent years the scheme has been expanded to include independent schools



The future of the Assisted Places Scheme hangs in the balance. John Rae says a

different scheme would fulfil the original intentions

with no academic pretension. "All the schools have been chosen for their academic record," the Independent Schools Information Service assures parents interested in the scheme. But 47 of the schools offering assisted places are so weak academically that they cannot make the top five hundred in The Times A-level league table. To argue that children need to move to these schools to get a better academic education is an insult to the large number of state schools with better

The omens are not good as the future of the scheme hangs in the balance. The independent schools want the best children they can get, not the children who

need them most. The Conservatives think that extending parental choice is justification enough. Labour and the Liberal Democrats believe there are no needs that cannot be met by the local education authority.

How wrong they all are. There are children whose needs are not being met in state schools and who could be helped by independent schools if those schools were willing to co-operate.

I am thinking particularly of children with learning difficulties. There are other children whose needs are not being met. but those with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia and dyspraxia, are a good illustration of how a reformed Assisted

Places Scheme could work. These children are ill-served by many local education authorities (LEAs) and would be wellserved by those independent schools that have developed an impressive expertise in this area. There is a match between need and opportunity, precisely the circumstances in which it would be justified to

hanging the basis of the scheme in this way would have a number of implications. The independent schools would have to accept that while other needs were not ruled out, most assisted places would be awarded to children who would not improve the school's position in the league

The LEAs would have to accept that their schools cannot provide for the needs of all their children, something they would not find it easy to do. No one who has not tried to persuade an LEA to make special provision for a child with learning difficulties can have any idea of the lengths to which some LEAs will go to demonstrate that no special provision is The new scheme would be funded and administered centrally. Someone has to check the child's need and the school's qualifications for meeting it. However difficult that proves, it will be an improvement on the present arrangements. which include no check at all.

As the election approaches the indepen-dent sector is lobbying hard for the retention of the scheme. It would be a better strategy to bypass the politicians and to open discussions with the heads of state schools to see whether there is any common ground on reforming the scheme. State school heads were not consulted when the scheme was set up and may now be disinclined to get involved. They may even believe that the abolition of the scheme will reduce the size

of primary school classes.

The members of the National Association of Head teachers and of the Secondary Heads Association are, however, realists and they share with the heads of independent schools a belief that the needs of the child are paramount. They might also welcome a change that prevented the independent sector poachng scome of their most promising pupils.

## Public schools score own goal

Mark Dickson on the out-of-date prejudices that keep soccer off the independent school syllabus

t the opening ceremony A of Euro 96 last summer, the role of English public schools in the origins of rootball was acknowledged and celebrated. The first organised games were played in these schools during the a a a a : and initial attempts to agree on a common set of rules of the is a game were made by their a - 1.2 2 before the formation of the Footbell Association in 1863.

The game is now the world's most popular sport. And with English football enjoying its half a century, it is all the more remarkable that many public schools offer their pa organised football at all About half of the schools in

the Headmasters' Conference omit football from the list of sports they play, as revealed in the Independent Schools Yearbook in Scottish independent schools, the playing of organised soccer is almost un-heard of. The situation in prep schools is only a little better than in the senior schools. The popularity of football

rews among children seems unquestionable. Is there a playground in the country where 100 spontaneous kickabout games are not almost continuous and not only for boys? Girls football is expanding rapidly. Of course, many schools choose to specialise in other

sports. Nothing wrong with that. Sporting preference is a matter of individual taste. But not to provide any organised football at all — depriving pupils of playing and learning Britain's national sport seems hard for school authorities to justify.
This official disapproval of

the national game can trace its. origins to the rise of professionalism in the years immediately before and after the First World War. Many schools considered that money had besmirched football, and began playing sports that stayed strictly amateur. In later years there was, unquestionably, an



The "beautiful game", public-school style: a Shrewsbury player, left, heads the ball away from a Malvern College boy

with football not considered a game fit to be played by gentlemen".

Belying this theory, how-ever, some of the country's most famous schools - Charterhouse, Eton, Shrewsbury, Winchester and Westminster, among others - have always stayed true to their footballing

Today the arguments against permitting any football at all seem more and more hard to support. Professionalism has invaded almost every

element of snobbery involved, team game at the top level, thus depriving other sports of any claims to holding the moral high ground. Football is cheap and easy to play, the pupils clearly want to play and, significantly, it is a rela-

> Football has become the world game; there is no country in which a footballer, after leaving school, cannot find a team to join, and few countries in which soccer does not provide the visitor with an interest to share with locals. The Football Association is

clearly eager to help schools to introduce soccer to their timetables. It has published the FA Curriculum Guide, showing how the game can fit into the national curriculum at key

t is hard to understand what reasons schools could give for not offeriing any football in their sporting curriculums. It is easier to believe that such a policy is motivated primarily by fear that their own favoured sport might be overwhelmed by the popularity of football among

playing soccer.

We all have our own sporting preferences. Different schools will continue to specialise in their own particular sports. I am not trying to argue against that, or to denigrate any other sport. But to deprive pupils of the opportunity of organised participation in Britain's national game seems, nowadays, quite uniustifiable.

The author is master in charge of football at Shrewsbury School.

### John O'Leary on changes in management teaching

飞 he modern manag er cannot spare the time to go on long courses at business schools. That would be to admit that his or her organisation can function without his leadership.

Aware of this, many leading business schools are increasingly concentrating on executive courses. Some have even opened their own hotels to cater for the senior managers who use the pro-

The MBA may still be the symbol of management edu-cation, but for schools such as Cranfield, Henley, London or Manchester, shorter courses are providing a growing proportion of in-come. Often tailored for a particular company, they can be part of a wider package of activities, including research and consultancy. At Cran-field, for example, executive education now accounts for 55 per cent of income. A £6 million executive centre opened last year with 186 rooms, plentiful leisure facil-

ities and the most modern communications. Professor Leo Murray. head of the school management, says: "The market has been buoyant for some time. We have been growing at 18 per cent a year for the past decade. But the whole character of what we offer is changing all the time; companies want more bang for the buck, and we have to tailor our courses to that."

As well as becoming more demanding, however, companies are more likely to enter into comprehensive and

## **Business** schools aim at the executive

long-lasting agreements. Courses may last from a few days to several weeks, with the longer programmes usually delivered in more than one section. Participants, even for the short courses, come from as far away as Indonesia. Most will fit a course into a longer business trip to British interests.

Henley Management School has also seen big changes in executive education, always an important part of the school portfolio. It can house 120 students in recently upgraded accommo-Gareth Jones, the Profes-

sor of Organisational Development, says: "Executives no longer regard themselves as passive recipients of received wisdom. They have become more sophisticated about what they want from a course, and the relationship is now more of a partnership. 'As a result, the whole role of the business school is

changing. The days are long gone when it was an adjunct of the university, conferring status on managers who would come for two or three months. People cannot afford to be away from their

desks for that long, and the main purpose of the course is to help exec utives to cope with high rates of change."

Like other schools. Henley is seeing a resurgence of the "open" courses, rather than those tailored to companies. The school offers a halfway house on its Execu-tive MBA programme. Some big companies form consortiums to ensure cross-fertilisation of ideas within a tightly con-

trolled course. At Manchester Business School, the dividing line between executive education and traditional courses is increasingly blurred. Executives often take single modules of an MBA course. using it as the management component of a specialist

programme. Professor Peter Barrar, the Postgraduate Centre's director, says: "In schools like ours, executive education is the main growth area. The MBA is a very mature market, and the shorter course offers the same level of work with minimal disruption."

Competition among business schools is every bit as fierce as in the MBA market: both American and European schools also concentrate on executive courses. Harvard Business School, for example, has made overhauling its executive programmes a priority since the arrival of a new dean last year, and Insead, the top French school at Fontainebleau, just outside Paris, is also an attractive proposition for British managers.

### John Gilmore reports on increasing worries in France about safety at school

oncerns about school security in France are growing. A report for the French Education Ministry claims that at one infants and primary school in ten there is a possible fire risk, at a time when French teachers and parents are increasingly worried about classroom and playground violence. They are demanding extra safety measures. The report showed faults in evacua-

tion procedures, poor construction and defective equipment. Stacks of materials littered classes and corridors, adding to the fire risks. 156,000 accidents in 1994-95, and as a

result they sent 13,000 children to b hospital, most for less than 48 hours. But 1,500 of those had to stay in hospital for more than two days. Sixteen children died during tuition, six of them while playing sport. Jean-Marie Schleret, president of

the Observatoire National de la Securité des Etablissements Scolaires. said: "We must introduce a culture of improved security and safety in schools." His report pointed out that only 46 per cent of the Fr2.5 billion (about £294 million) allocated by the Government in 1994 over a five-year plan tiad been used to improve school facilities. It is believed that a further hevel of protection and order could be Management of the second secon

## French lessons with fears

sum of between Fr3 billion and Fr5 billion will be needed. It is only four months since two

French school teenagers died - one accidentally, the other by stabbing -All schools up to lucée level reported within eight days of each other, prompting François Bayroue, the Education Minister, to ask every secondary school to provide him with a report on violence on their premises and ideas on controlling it.

At the Collège Henri Beaumont in the council estate Argentine region of Beauvais, in l'Oise, courses restarted only on December 16 after a month without lessons following an attack on a teacher. Jean-Michel Langlet, a sports teacher, was hit several times in the face by a student during a physical education lesson. It was too much for anxious parents, teachers and students, who agreed

that courses would stop until a proper

November, 27 of 219 incidents involved fighting. Teachers at the school claim that lessons were continually disrupted by unruly students and that sometimes only 15 minutes' tuition was possible.

such social conditions."

five more security staff. In other schools, similar fears have

guaranteed. In the first seven days of

Jean-Claude Ropars, the college principal, said: "We are in the heart of an explosive area of high unemployment. Teachers are not equipped for

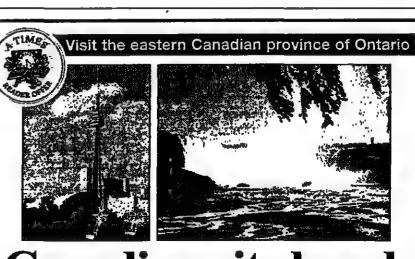
The college reopened the week before Christmas with a strong police presence around the school and 750 of the 850 students attending. The teachers reluctantly started lessons again. The Education Ministry did not not meet all of the protesters' demands, but the college received an extra social assistant and

led to different action. Last month, parents of students at the Collège Pesquier in the Gardanne Bouchesdu-Rhône region prevented the teachers from entering the school in protest at the lack of surveillance. They demanded more supervisors.

René Salvet, a Paris lecturer, claimed: "There are two difficulties: the social problem of unemployed extended families, in which the adults have no job, and the need to revolutionise the rigid education system. Guy Drut, the Sports Minister, has

tried to change the education system by introducing in 200 regions a new five-day primary school programme of morning academic learning and recreational afternoon activities. The programme is aimed mainly at areas of high unemployment and by 1997 about 200,000 children are expected to benefit from the system.

But the Government's attempts to reduce public spending during the past year have been strongly resisted by the public. Jean Lerange, an analyst, said: "It's a no-win situation. French people want to pay less tax, but do not want anybody tampering with their personal doctor service. Meanwhile, unemployment continues to rise: about 12 per cent of the working population are out of work."



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TENNIS: BRITISH NO 1 MOVES INTO SEMI-FINALS WITH PREDECESSOR SINGING HIS PRAISES

## Henman continues to impress

By Our Sports Staff

THE excellent start to the new year for Tim Henman continued yesterday in the quarter-finals of the international tournament in Sydney. Hen-man beat Alex O'Brien, of the United States, 1-6, 7-6, 6-4 to set up a match with Goran Ivanisevic, of Croatia, for a place in the final of the warmup event for the Australian

Henman looked far from convincing against O'Brien in the early stages, losing his first service and winning just one game in the opening set. But Henman's serve improved considerably in the second set. as he moved into a 5-2 lead, only to be broken again and to miss a set point as O'Brien fought back to 6-b. But the Briton took the rie-break 7-3 before winning the deciding

Steffi Graf said yesterday that she will be fit to challenge for a fifth Australian Open title. The world No I has missed the past two Australian Opens because of injury. Graf. the favourite for the tournament starting next week in the absence of Monica Seles, said: "I have practised a lot over the last few days and I am ready."

After a tiring flight from Doha, where Henman lost in the final of the Qatar Open to Jim Courier, there were fears that playing in Sydney would see an early exit for Henman as he prepared for the Australian Open. But his performances in the tournament to date have suggested other-wise. Henman has now beaten Renzo Furlan, of Italy. Sergi Bruguera, the former French Open champion from Spain, and O'Brien - himself a man rising in the world

"I have played quite a few games in the last few weeks but I still feel full of energy." Henman said. "I am definitely feeling fitter and moving a lot better around the court. I was mainly concerned with preparations for the Australian Open, which starts on

Monday, I only hope I can continue with my form so far." Mark Cox, the former British No I, paid tribute yesterday to Henman's progress. "He has a tremendous future. What impresses me most is that he has an inner belief in his own abilities." Cox said.

"He's a player with immensenatural talent and has the capacity to play the big points well. One of his goals. I know, for 1997 was to get to a final, and by doing so in the Qatar Open he has had a good start." Henman was rated No 24 in the latest ATP world rankings, but his victory over O'Brien

should see that improve further. Cox, who carried the mantle of the leading British player between 1908 and 1976, added: "Now he's really well up there and is capable of beating any player in the world. He is on a learning curve and every match is a new experience for him. He's developing physically all the time and has now developed more muscle and real power."

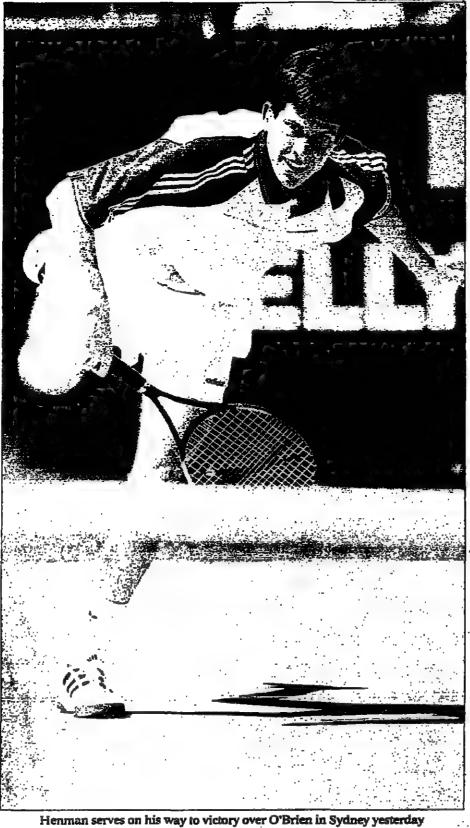
Ivanisevic will pose a bigger test for the 22-year-old Briton, looking comfortable in disposing of Sandon Stolle, of Australia, in straight sets yesterday, 0-4, 6-2. The other semi-final will be contested by two Spaniards, Carlos Moya and Alberto Costa, who both won in straight sets yesterday.

In the women's event, Martina Hingis, of Switzer-land, and Jennifer Caprian continued their winning ways. Hingis, the No 2 seed, survived a scare in the first set against Yayuk Basuki, of Indonesia, before advancing with a 7-6, p-1 victory, while Capriati, of the United States. extended her winning streak with a 6-1, 6-1 triumph over her compatriot. Amy Frazier. The United States are well represented in the semi-finals. with Mary Joe Fernandez and Lindsay Davenport both win-

ning yesterday.

Three British players, Andrew Richardson, Mark
Petchey and Jamie Delgado, all won their first-round matches in the qualifying competition for the Australian Open in Melbourne.

Results, page 45



## Australian officials put trust in rankings

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

**AUSTRALIAN Open officials** have stuck fairly rigidly to the world rankings in naming their seedings, avoiding a repeat of the controversy that affected the US Open last year. Pete Sampras and Steffi Graf were yesterday named No I seeds in the singles competitions of the year's first grand-slam event, starting at Melbourne Park on Monday. The draw will be made today. Unlike at the US Open and Wimbledon, where officials also consider a player's record on grass, the Australian Open has a tradition of relying on official world rankings in deciding seedings. Indeed, in the men's singles, the top six seedings replicate the Association of Tennis Professionals

rankings.
Michael Chang, who lost to
Boris Becker in four sets in
the final last year, is the No 2 seed, with Goran Ivanisevic seeded third ahead of the French Open champion, Yevgeny Kafelnikov. Becker is seeded sixth, true to his ranking, one place behind Thomas Muster.

It was Muster who accused US Open officials of manipulating the draw and seedings when they departed from the usual format last year. The reaction from Muster and other players prompted offici-als to take the unprecedented step of scrapping the men's draw and starting again from scrutch.

In the women's singles, Arantoa Sanchez Vicario, of Spain, has been named the No 2 seed after the withdrawal of Monica Seles with a broken finger.

RUGBY LEAGUE

## Lindsay gets on course for senior Tote role

Christopher Irvine reports on the rugby league executive with plans for horse racing

resign as chief executive of the Rugby Football League (RFL). a position he has held since November 1992, should his candidature for chairmanship of the Tote, the governmentbacked pool-betting organisbe successful. He ation, be successful. He would, however, probably re-tain his chairmanship of the Super League International

Board. Until now, Lindsay's passion for racing has come second to that for rugby league. Were he to jump horses, the Tote could anticipate the same zealous reform that has modernised rugby league under his dynamic and, on occasions, controver-

sial stewardship. In the event of his departure, the domestic game would be left in a healthier financial state, largely as a result of the £87 million Super League deal that he helped to negotiate. David Howes, the St Helens chief executive, and Gary Hetherington, his recently appointed opposite number at Leeds, could be among contenders for the vacancy.

Lindsay, 55, was apparently invited to apply for the Total position in succession to Lord Wyatt, of Weeford. He is a leading choice among nine candidates and is flattered by the interest. To even be considered among such eminent company is a recognition of rugby league's development over the past ten years," he said. Right now, I'm concentrating on the world club competition this summer and the International Board meeting at the end of the month."
His readiness to leave the RFL - "I would face an awfully difficult decision." he admitted — could be interpreted as knowing when to move on. Lindsay is a shrewd opera-

tor and the timing is apt, when

Rugby League (Europe)

MAURICE LINDSAY would RLE - the new marketing organisation set up by the 12 Super League clubs, is assuming some of the RFL's duties and actually sharing some staff in Leeds.

Delegating responsibility is not a strength of Lindsay; undaunted, one-man leadership is. The Tote is ripe for reform, as rugby league was when Lindsay took control from David Oxley, his urbane predecessor, after an acclaimed 13 years at Wigan. Lindsay was portrayed as villain for trying to sell off the game's heritage in the switch to summer and advent of the Super League, but there was to be no turning back.

Personality clashes within

the game have led Lindsay to appear isolated at times, but even his critics bow to his fighting qualities. He has raised the game's profile — but also damaged it. His instruc-tion to send home 12 players halfway through Great Brit-ain's tour of New Zealand last October before consulting the team management was a demoralising episode.

The £75,000-a-year Tote position is for 32 days a week. Lindsay said that, whatever happened, he would not turn his back on rugby league. At international level, his role is deemed too important for him to depart, with the 22-team world dub competition starting in June, and the first Great Britain v Australia series under the Super League banner, in November.

Lindsay is due to have his first meeting next Monday with Colin Myler, the new RLE chief executive, whose role on behalf of the Super League clubs is to market, promote and sell the game. It is important for both men to forge a productive relation-— but there is now a hiatus while Lindsay is considered for the new post.

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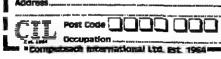
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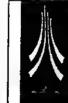
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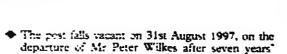
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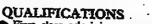
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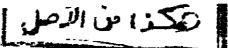
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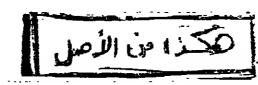
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Then, the expansion teams

were allowed double the

number of picks of the estab-

lished clubs in the college draft

that April, the annual gold

mine of leading young talent available to the NFL. The

Panthers and the Jaguars

were even allowed the first two

picks in all seven rounds. In

addition to these benefits, both

teams had an advantage on

expansion clubs of previous

years because of the new

system of free agency in the

NFL, which allows players to

move on to another club at the

While the established teams

could not extract the maxi-

mum advantage from this

system, because paying many

of the new players' wages might take them over the

salary cap they are allocated by the league, the Jaguars and the Panthers had much more

leeway to sign free agents

because they did not have

existing players bringing them close to their wages limit. Last season, that allowed the Panthers, for instance, to

'It would be like

two unseeded

players reaching

at Wimbledon'

tempt big-name players such

as Kevin Greene away from the Super Bowl runners-up, Pittsburgh Steelers, to the

Ericsson Stadium. In Jackson-

ville, the recruitment of play-

ers of a similarly high quality

resulted in all home matches

being sold out three years in

The creation of both teams, the acceptance of their bids by

the NFL, offers more evidence

that the centre of gravity in the

United States is moving south. In the 1990 census of the 20

fastest-growing metropolitan

areas with more than a million

people, 19 were in the south

Perhaps Charlotte may not

be every American's idea of an

NFL city - "if New York is the

city that never sleeps." a

professor at the University of

North Cerolina seid, "Char-

wakes" — but together with

Jacksonville, it is fast proving

Leon Searcy, an offensive

tackle with the Jaguars,

caught the mood. The motto

around here," he said, "is why

the doubters wrong.

the final

end of their contract.

## Oliver Holt on how the Panthers and Jaguars took American football by storm

Novelty acts who have fast become top cats

was like to be part of a phenomenon. I wanted to know if what I had heard was true: that more than 40,000 people had left their homes in the small North Florida city in the early hours of last Sunday morning to make their way to the Municipal Stadium and welcome home their Jaguars.

She said that the reports were right. She knew because she had driven her teenage children to the stadium at about Ilpm, after they had watched the Jaguars, a team that did not even exist 18 months ago, stun the nation by beating Denver Broncos to move within one victory of an appearance in the Super Bowl in New Orleans later this

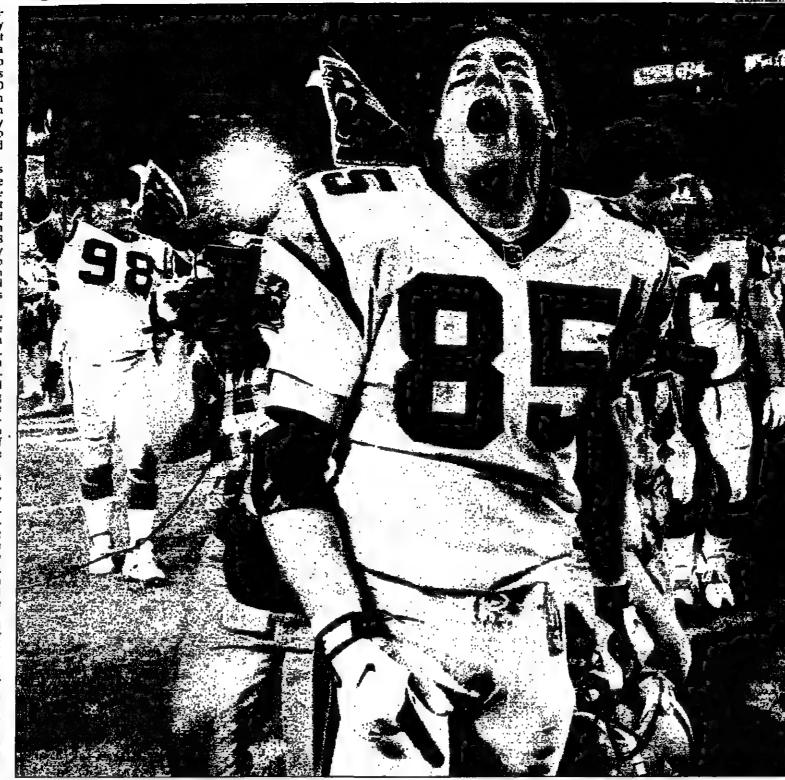
They waited there for more than three hours until the players arrived back from Colorado. The head coach. Tom Coughlin, made a speech. So, too, did the quarterback, Mark Brunell, and the team's leading running back. Natrone Means. The next day, the Florida Times-Union devoted its front page to the 30-27 victory, the coming of age. "They're for real," the headline screamed.

Everyone in America knows they are for real, now. Suddenly, a nation that is gripped by Super Bowl fever every January is facing up to the possibility that not only might Jacksonville be in the sport's showpiece event, but that they might also be facing Carolina Panthers, the other new team Football League (NFL) in the autumn of 1995.

The Panthers unleashed tide OWIL "Panthermonium" when they dethroned the Super Bowl champions, Dallas Cowboys, in Charlotte last Sunday. If they beat Green Bay Packers in north-eastern Wisconsin on Sunday and the Jaguars conquer New England Patriots in Massachusetts on the same day, the unthinkable will have

Unthinkable because it is like trying to imagine the 1998 FA Carling Premiership title being won by a football team that has no place in one's consciousness today. The closest parallels, perhaps, are Wimbledon winning the FA Cup in 1988 and Blackburn Rovers' resuscitation culminating in their Premiership triumph in 1995.

Neither achievement. though, comes anywhere near the speed of progress made by the Jaguars and the Panthers, and all in one of the most commercially driven leagues



Wesley Walls, the Panthers tight end, voices his delight as a night of celebration begins in Charlotte after the defeat of the Dallas Cowboys

in the world, a league that demanded \$140 million entrance fees from both of its new boys when they boosted the league of 28 teams to 30.

When this season started, the Panthers were listed at 75-1 to win the Super Bowl and the Jaguars at 150-1. Now, as the Los Angeles Times said last week, they are "in position to become one of sport's all-time novelty acts", a bit like two lowly, unseeded players contesting the men's final at Wimbledon or two rank outsiders racing neck-and-neck for the line in the Derby.

"Carolina would be a sevenpoint favourite," Bob Scucci, sports manager at the Stardust Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, said of a match between them. "But betting would be down. We get a lot of action on proposition bets, like John Elway throwing for 300 vards or Michael Irvin making ten catches, but it's kind of tough when you don't know

By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Today concludes my reports on the

annual Hastings Chess Congress, the premier tournament of which

The second tournament at Has-

the full wing year's Fremier. This year, the challengers section was

chammen James Players as well

champion James Waskert as well as cuspossing Lake McShane, the 13-year-old British product, and the homes challenger for the social champion show. Museum David

Hastings round-up

its inception in 1895

who even plays for these

In New Orleans, the host committee is getting a little nervous. The romance of a Carolina-Jacksonville match is one thing, but the organisers estimate that a Denver versus Dallas encounter would have brought up to 100,000 more fans to the city just to savour the atmosphere rather than actually attend the game in the Superdome.

NFL officials, though, are

cock-a-hoop. In a league where parity is striven for unceasingly, they have upped their game considerably since the last time expansion teams were introduced, in 1977. In their second season. Tampa Bay Buccaneers, one of the new teams, won only two of

their 14 games. The success of the Jaguars and the Panthers, a team who even denied San Francisco 49ers their traditional National Football Conference

western division title this season, is a tribute to the way the league eased the new boys in and allowed them to compete with the pillars of the ancien régime

The process began in February 1995, seven months before both teams were due to take the field for the first time. The 28 existing clubs were ordered to submit a list of six veteran players each for selection to the expansion teams, who were required to pick a total of

## **Gresley try** to link up with the **County set**

By RICHARD HOBSON AND WALTER GAMMIE

THE Baseball Ground, home of Derby County since 1895. could stage non-League foot-ball next season after a plea from nearby Gresley Rovers to use the stadium temporarily. Rovers, who reside about 15 miles away, are four points clear at the top of the Dr Martens League premier division with two games in hand and appear to be cruising towards a place in the Vauxhall Conference.

Next month they unveil plans for a new ground, but while work might be completed in time for the 1997-98 season, it will not be ready by the Conference's April 1 deadline for inspection. Derby, themselves, move to new headquarters at the end of the present season and are likely to maintain the Baseball

Ground for reserve matches Gresley, managed by Paul Futcher and his assistant, Garry Birtles, the former England striker, withdrew their original bid to join the Conference when they were told that a move into Derby represented a breach of rules. Since then it has emerged that the Conference will accept Brighton and Hove Albion, who are bottom of the Nationwide League third division, even if the South Coast club are sharing with Gillingham, as is probable.

However, John Moules, the Conference secretary, said that ground-share schemes have to be in place a year before applications to join, but that a separate agreement commits the Conference to take the bottom club in the third division if the Nationwide League accepts the Conference champions.

Graham Westley, who had his leg broken and his ankle dislocated when leading the returned to football as the manager of Kingstonian.

Westley, 28, is manager of a thriving organisation called Aimitia — Affiliade is more important than ability - and has put similar energy into his new position.

He has brought in Graham manager, as his coach. Jim Brown, with whom he formed a prolific goalscoring partnership for Kingstonian in 1988, and Ron Berry, former physiotherapist at Queens Park Rangers, to breathe new life into the club.

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

### By Robert Sheehan, Bridge correspondent

One of the more difficult plays in the game is to lead into a tenace to give your partner a ruff, hoping that you will later make a trick in the suit with your high card. An example cropped up in the

45 Malta Internat	ional Pairs	
Dealer North	E-W game	Match-pointed
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### Contract: Three Hearts by South

Playing five-card majors and a strong no-trump. North opened One Diamond. East overcalled One Spade, and I bid Two Hearts. West passed and North raised conventa-

tively to Three Hearts. West led the ace and king of diamonds. I ruffed and played a heart to the queen and noe. East took the acc of hearts and returned a heart. The rest was straightforward - I won the heart in dummy, ruffed dummy's third diamond in hand. took three rounds of clubs and played a spade to the ten When East won she either had to lead into the acc-queen of spades or give a raff and diseard. So at least I made tentricks, though most declarers made the same ten tricks in Four Hearts.

HINNY

a. To snigger

c. An equine

PALINOIA

a. Memory

b. Repetition

c. Italian lace

b. A bothy

### Lead: ace of diamonds

I hape you can see the defence to hold the declarer to nine tricks. East must play a spade after winning the ace of hearts. West rufts, and East still comes to the king of spades. I think East might find this defence. As East has bid spades, if West had a spade he surely would have led one through the are-queen when he held the first trick The 1997 Malta Festival will be played in Stiema from

February 15 to 21 Details from Mario Dix on 00356. 330500: fax 00356 373683 ☐ Refresher articles will resume in a couple of weeks. bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

UROPYGIUM

a. A bird's bottom

b. Euro boredom

GOSSOON

a. Young man

b. A divine bird

c. To weave silk

Answers on page 42

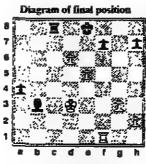
Histings Challengers

Robert Sheehan writes on section on Saturday.

Queen's Gambi ΞŒ 105 105 105 2 645 Det

### Og5 Ryg5 Ryg6 Se6 Rb9 Nxd2 Sd5 Rxg6 Rxg2 Bcs2 Oxg5 Nt3 Rae1 Rt2 Nd2 A.cd2 p3 r12 has tradificually been the UK's strongest these Kurnament since Ke3 Rat 25 Rb2 tings known as the challengers seeting, bods qualifiers through to Kd3 cb6 Filt year, in a late curst by the Librarian grandmatter tope Rates In so done be overtible the early leader force British White гезідпо

KEENE on CHESS



### Hospital fund-raising

On Saturday March 22, I will take on all-comers in a simultaneous to take place in the hoardroom of St George's Hospital, Tooting, Londun SW17. The goal is to raise funds for the St George's Hospital Hold My Hand appeal which aims to roise £1 million for their Chi-drint: Intensive Care Unit, Details and entry forms are available from Lucy de Ville. The Appeal Office, St Contre's Hospital (tel: 0181-728)

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

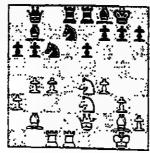
## WINNING MOVE

White to play. This position is: from the game Pagoreloy -Lopez Rodriguez Castellen 1966. It looks as if we might be in for a slow positional struggle, but White swiftly concluded the game in his favour with a fine combination. Can you

Solution on page 42

By Raymond Keene

see in



### Productive deal

From Mr Geoff Douglass Sir. In these days of performance-related pay deals, how many employers offer such luctrative contracts as the Football Association?

After being appointed its echnical director, Howard Wilkinson said on radio:

## Optimism for future of English cricket ment and captaincy is suffi-ciently intelligent and inspira-tional. Further tinkering with the structures of the English

first-class game will be, at

best, an irrelevancy.

RICHARD PÉNNEY.

From Mr Alan Challoner

Sir, There can be no doubt that

too professional sportsmen

are working in a privileged

situation. How many people, at the higher end of their

profession, could get away with a public admission such

as Michael Atherton's, that:

"I've not been playing for working for the rest of us well

for a year now, and there are

technical problems to address

could expect the brown enve-

lope if they had worked as

Sir. The decline of England's

authorities decided, some 15

years ago, to discourage com-

petitive sports, particularly

cricket, in state schools and

where possible, to sell off the

At the present time these

policies are occsionally re-versed, often with the help of

badiy as that.

Yours faithfully

ALAN CHALLONER.

From Mr Angus Irvine

Most people in a normal job

Barrington Cottage,

Moreton-in-Marsh.

Yours sincerely,

Longborough,

**SPORTS LETTERS** 

From Mr Richard Penney Sir. The anticipated demands for more changes in the structures and systems governing English cricket have followed the failures of the English team in Zimbabwe as surely as night follows day. It seems to have been forgotten that the England A team has just returned from a highly successful tour of Australia, while the England Under-19 team has aquitted itself well in Pakistan. Both these teams were organised and selected by the same individuals, within the same systems, as the senior team.

From this distance shortcomings in team management generally and player motivation in particular contributed to the disappointing English performance in Zimbabwe. However, the extent of the disappointment was a direct result of gross over-confidence beforehand in the ability of this English team to outplay Zimbabwe in Zimbabwe.

The sad truth is surely that, with Atherton in such poor 13 The Village, Bodelwyddan, Denbighshire. form, none of the current English team (with the oossible, ironic exception of the rejected Russelli would even be considered for a World XI cricket has been inevitable or even a World Second XI. ever since our local education For the time being, the English cricket team is strictly second division in the international context. If this English team draws the imminent away series against New Zeaschool playing fields to land, it will have done well. developers. Being optimistic, the recent

feats of the A team and the under-19 players should augur well for the future prospects of English Test cricket, provided the team selection, manage-

Lottery grants towards plant and equipment. But, by and large, today's children do not

"We've got a very good set-up at the moment. What we need is that extra two per cent." £200,000 a year and all you have to do is get a two per cent productivity improvement. Not a bad deal! Yours faithfully GEOFF DOUGLASS.

3 Gilmore Close.

Ickenham, Middlesex.

### have the opportunity to play games at school, as previous generations were able to do. Every one of us who is interersted in the future suc-

cess of the England cricket team, and in the characterforming benefits of young people being allowed to play sports at school, should take every opportunity to urge school governors to lift these unkind restrictions. At the same time the Government must prohibit the sale of any more school playing fields. I remain, Sir, your obedient

ANGUS IRVINE, Nil Farm, Hook Norton, Oxfordshire.

From Col J. H. McGuinness Sir. As one who has had no interest in professional sport for 60 years, I was fascinated to hear that a chicken farmer took a hat-trick against Eng-

land (report, January 4). Is

there, perhaps, a case for

bringing back a few Gentle-men to join the Players in the England side? Yours faithfully JAMES MCGUINNESS.

Pen-y-Bont Fach, Cynwyd, Conwen, Denbighshire, From Mr Gavin Chayce

Sir. Banks, Cohen, Wilson, Moore et al ... Most sports fans of a certain age can recite by heart the names of the only England football team to win

the World Cup.
Will today's sports fans
come to remember the following list with similar awe and affection: Gooch, Atherton, Hick, Thorpe, Fairbrother, Crawley, Rhodes, Gough, DeFreitas, Udal and Ben-

They are, of course, the members of the side which, on a never to be forgotten day in January 1995 at Brisbane, became the only English cricket team ever to win an international cricket match (Test or one-day) against Zimbabwe. Yours faithfully. GAVIN CHOYCE 19 Kildare Terrace, W2.

## **Boats at risk**

Sir, I could scarcely believe my eyes when I saw the picture of a capsized yacht in the Southern Ocean on the front page (January 7). How could any-one in their right mind go to sea in such a vessel? A sixtyfoot long "dinghy" that was barely safe to sail on a park lake, an almost non-existent keel, an unsupported rudder and five tons of water as movable ballast.

The utterly unsuitable hull shape should never have been taken to sea, the keel is part of the (to my mind) unseaworthy hull design, and unsupported rudders are notorious for snapping off, even in the seas around the British Isles.

If this boat was taken aback, and this is not unusual when ocean sailing, the water ballast would have shifted to the lower side and, with the help of the wind on the wrong side of the sails and the hull shape, the boat would have had no choice but to capsize whether the skipper was asleep or awake - and he could have

done nothing to stop it. For many years there have been thousands of yachties quietly crossing oceans and getting there safely under their own steam. They, too. met excessive winds and seas. but they set out in properly equipped boats designed to go to sea and cause no problems for others to clear up. Not for them the expensive searches by merchant shipping, naval vessels and aircraft and all done without the ballyhoo that accompanies these ocean racing characters. -

Yours sincerely, BILL FINNIS Tamariu Kirby Cross.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They should include a daytime telephone

تعكذا من الأصل

### on the ocean From Mr Bill Finnis

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THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 10 1997

**National** 

Hunt on

course for

return

TURF racing is set to

resume at Musselburgh today provided the course

passes, a 7.30am inspec-

tion. Frost and snow have prevented National Hunt

action since Musselburgh's fixture on Decem-

her 27 and, although the

same track suffered a late

abandonment last Satur-

day, clerk of the course,

Mark Kershaw, is confi-

dent today's fixture will

frost and the course is raceable with the tempera-

ture rising to 4C," he said.

"But there is a slight frost forecast for tonight with

the temperature expected to rise to 34C during the

TOMORROW'S MEETINGS LINGPELD PARKS

NEWCASTLE good to eat (suppose)

day. Bearing in mind what happened last Saturday.

we will hold an inspection

At Ascot, clerk of the

course, Nick Cheyne, held

two inspections of the track today, but on each occasion returned with

bad news. Cheyne called

off today's card after

checking the course at Sam, then ahandoned to-

morrow's Victor Chandler

card after a 3pm ins-

pection. Warwick tomorrow also

fell to frost after an inspec-

tion this afternoon, but the

prospects for tomorrow's card at Newcastle look

bright. "We could have

raced today and, provided

fixture tomorrow. -

12.55 Moon Devil

1.20 Kinneecash

WARWICK: abandoned. WOLVERHAMPTON: all weather.

"It has been raining today, we haven't had any

## Carl Evans on a point-to-point season whose attractions will be brought to television



Curling, three times a national point-to-point riders' champion, shows the style she hopes will regain her the title from Dare

## Screen test confirms appeal

The annual adventure of the point-to-point season is likely to have to wait another week before the tapes rise. The fixtures at Larkhill tomorrow and Cottenham on Sunday have fallen to frost, while icy Tweseldown inspects at noon today. There is little likelihood of a rise in temperature sufficient to thaw the turi. The pity about the loss of Larkhill's Army meeting is that it would have greeted the first live television coverage of point-to-pointing. The Racing Chan-

mel was to broadcast six races, a glowing tribute to a sport which is slowly shedding its image as a bit of farmland fun. Farmers still gain huge pleasure in taking part but Walter Dennis did not win the Hennessy Gold Cup with Coome Hill by using him to round up sheep. When it comes to training and riding a thorough preparation is

the weather stays as it is, we should be all right," a needed nowadays, and the modern course spokeswoman said. point-to-point yard invariably is aware ☐ Channel 4 will cover of Martin Pipe's methods. The Racing Channel planned to five races live from Wolcover four meetings this season and will be back at Larkhill on February J. verbampion's all-weather

It is hard to predict what effect The Racing Channel's involvement will have on this supremely uncomplicated amateur sport, but it would be sad if video tape leads to red tape.

One possible scenario, if television coverage is increased, is the introduction of overnight declarations, letting armchair viewers know who is taking part. The sport will look silly if a broadcaster's welcoming address in-cludes the line: "Fantus is the star today, but we don't know if he's

Horses are declared to run up to 45 minutes before the off, a charmingly simple way of doing things, but for how much longer? And overnight declarations would enable off-course Television does provide a carrot to

sponsors. The parcel carriers, Interlink Express, and the stockbrokers, Greig Middleton, who are each to sponsor a series of races, were made aware of the coming cameras. Unhappily, Land Rover's one chance to be on television tomorrow has succumbed to the

Among competitors some bright new talent is pushing for the top, albeit towards an uncertain future. A General Election will take place during this season and a Labour Government would allow a free vote on hunting. A ban would wipe away the roots of the

The investment in hunting and all its related aspects - feed, farriers, saddlers and so on — is huge, while point-to-pointing's fiscal role also grows rapidly. For investors, all-weather gallops seem a commodity to be in and most hig yards now have one, or access to one. Bert Lavis, the trainer, loves working his horses on the beach near Haverfordwest but with 20 horses in training he was forced to install an allweather surface last summer as a labour-saving device.

The Welshman is ready to power Jamie Jukes to his second title and the combination could reign supreme with the likes of Cedar Square and Northern Bluff in their squad. Pip Jones has sound prospects of making it a double for Wales by taking the women's title although her best horse, Handsome

Harvey, is sidelined by injury. The mare who took his title last season as the most successful pointer, Phar Too Touchy, will find life tougher in hunter chases but her Devon-based trainer, Victor Dartnall, can seemingly do little

wrong.

Dick Baimbridge has been around a little longer and he and Alison Dare were an unbeatable duo last year when she gained her sixth national title. Richard Barber and Caroline Saunders always have good horses to call upon. Fantus, the 1995 Cheltenham Foxhunters' winner, is back with Barber after a year off and the yard has some very good riders too, notably Polly Curling and Tim Mitchell, and the much-acclaimed youngster Joe Tiz-zard. Shropshire-based Sheila Crow relies mainly on son Alastair to ride her team of about 25 horses.

Many of the top hunter chasers are sidelined, including Ireland's Elegant Lord, although Flashing Steel will take some stopping now he is in this sphere. Britain's best hope of holding him at bay could be Master Kit, trained in Fife by farmer Jeremy Billinge.

### 1997 FIXTURES

January 11. Army & Earlief Jabandoned: 12: Cambs Harners Cottenham (post-ported until January 19), Garth & South Berks, Tresetdown (inspection noon

19. Point-to-Point Owners & Riders Club 28. Esser Farmers and Union, Visit-To, West Percy & Milvain, Amerik.

## February

1' New Forest at Larkhil, North Comwall, Wadchndgo; Old Raby Waton Casto, Ortord University Engation Glount, Thurlow, Horseheath. 2: North Western Area Club Woner-transpoon, Lincolnstere, Market Rasen B: Fast Cornwall, Great Tretter South set. Matome St Andrew

9: Badsworth, Witherby, Cambridge University Draghounds Corenham Northumberland Airwick Midlands Area Club, Thorpt, Tweseldown Club, Tweseldown

Teccedown

15 Larentshire & Rentewature Larent,
South Pool Nertiers Offey St Mary
United Services, Latti-10 Vale Of Cestar
Fra. Lon. Weseney Harriers, Higher
West Shropshire Western Park
16 Crameel Braghounds. Southwell,
Farmers Draghounds. Hurtisop
22. Berweckshire, Frans Haurin
Bolvertor Herners, Lima La Brackfeebly
Brob testy: Part: North Hereford
Virtuest, Sannington
Duncombe Park
Suffelia, Amplon

21. Mid. Sumb. Earmen, Brachte units

March

March

1: Besident al Didmentin Childingfold, leconfield & Cowdray. Pamam East Devon Cryst St Mary, East Esser, Mark. To. Riest and Denbrgh. Eaton Hol. Tyriedale Cortindge

2: Burton Market Pason South Durham, Seral Santon South Herefordshire. Garnons, South Midlands 12-5ington & Avion Valle Eastern Cactile, Brecon and Talybord, Llestington. Cumberland Farmers Lausen; Derward, Cham Park. North Lectbury Uppnion South Northalt Hamiess, Figham Caldey Novi-North Lectbury Uppnion-Sovern, North Northalt Hamiess, Figham Caldey Novi-Northalt Hamiess, Figham Caldey Novi-North East South Commail Creat Threshow South East. Champ, Tamatside Effortant-South

spie Eytor-24-Savern

P. Blankiney Southwes Staff College &
RMA Draghounds, Two-skidown

15: Durston Harners, Angxon Gelligaer
Farmers, Mayor Holdemecs, Ealton
Fart, New Forest Buckhounds, Larkfell,
Quantock, Staghounds, Catholistone,
Western, Madebridge

14. Commentionships, Fart Lon, Cottos.

Western Watehorder
16 Carmarthenshre, Erw Lon, Cottosmore, Garthorpe: Dar Wele and Haldon
Harners, OttorySirklery: Eglenten, Lanori,
Ross Henners, Germone, Weet StreetTickham Dotting
22: Cambridgeshire, Horsehoath, Crawley & Horshem, Parhem, Duke of
Buccleuch's Frans, Haugh, Hurworth,
Hutton Rudby, Lamenton, Kilworthy,
Lengibby, Bowels, Mendigh Farmers,
Castle of Cornicot, Vale of White Horse,
Saddington, Witten, Badbury Rings
21: Mid Devon, Cyst St Mary, Sir W W
Wym's, Eaton Halt, South Wold,
Brocklosby Pluk
28: Agribord Valley, Cherning Cattilistock,

Procision Pauk
28: Ashibard Valley, Cherring Cattlistock,
Imme Vindeor Cleveland, Stamlon; Ciffion
on Terme, Upper Sapey, Essex, High
Easter, Monmouthshire, Linnveploy,
North Staffactshire, Sandon, Percy,
Armack, Spooners & West Dermoor,
CherryStock, Techeroffin, Barbury Cazillo;
United Pack, Brampton Bryan; Vale of
Lynes Pack, Brampton Bryan; Vale of
Lynes Whitington, Weodiend Pytchley, Dingley
31: East Kert, Aldington; Eggeston,
Bashopsleagh Essex Farmers, Merks Tey,
Four Burrow, Wastebridge: Morpeth,
Tranwell, North Cossesuick, Pedocid, Old
Berkehlre, Lockinger South Nottanghernshire. Thorpo, South Pembrokeshire,

Lydettip South Shropehire, Eylen or Sovern Southdown and Endige Heartfield Staintoncale Charm Park Taunton Vale European St Man, Vinc and Craven Hautemood Par

SPORT 43

April 1: Croome & West Warmchahoe a Upton on Swern High Peak Harners 5. Bramham Moor, Weherby Curre House Fitzwikiam White, Communication

5. Bramham Moor, Westerby Curre-House Fitzelliam Major, Constrain Royal Artillery Latter 5. Blackmore 6. Spartford Valle Charton, Horsthome Chesture Forest, Eather Jedicrost Fin-ars Haugh, Silverton, Each Forest Lidue Thyside Por plan West Med. Pershara Windson Forest Tuesdalliam 6. Heydropp Howers.

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27. Berks & Burks Drag Berber, Carrie
East Suscar & Romney Marsh Bour
Grove & Ruthurd, Sorruna: Socrington
Little Windoor West Nortalik, Faker am

May

May

7 Abinghion at Wester Payl Cambridgeshee University United Catherogen
Devon & Someroer Staghounds, Accept Referency Club That Select
Corpet Lauderdale Metaminer, Medbury Hamers, Field Payl Pendle Forest &
Craven Grobung
4: Fermie Burger
5: Barregen Mines, Fartyden Cottey
Cottey Farm Enfalld Chape Norther
North Stropchine, Eyror, et. Select
Radner & West Herefordshire Counted
Hid Sevenstone High Exception
Warwickshire (E), Achtomy Word StreetTeicham, Alcongon Zetland, WoorCathe

10: Bladdele Example, Id. Clamberland, Aspaha-East Anglian, Marka Tey Misshead Hamters & West Somerast, Honcole Surrey Union Pecer Instruction Surrey Union Pecer Instruction Street Vale of Ayleshury, Kingdon & Aumentica National Vale Farmers (E) Macromore Park Lile of Virtio and Thames Valley Twessidown, Llandelo Env. Lin. Metton, Carthorpe, South Devon Ottery & Mary Devon Ottery & Mar;

14: Wessen and Bannell Cothe.stone
17: Border, Corbnige Duhlerton West,
Bratton Down, Golden Valley Brechandine, Ystrud Tat Pechan Basadeg
18: Blesser with Whaddon Chase.
Molington Wheelland Woherhampton,
24: Duhlerton East, Mountly His Galo
Tracegar Farmens, Basadeg
28: Albrighton Woodland Chaddesley
Corbott, South Teleott, Limon
31: Exmoor Bratton Down

June 1: Harborough at Dingley 8: Torrington Farmers, Uniberleigh

### 12.55 LEVY BOARD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HURIT FLAT RACE (£1.319: 2m) (16 runners) THUNDERER 1.55 Sheldyr 12.05 Bold Aristocrat 2.25 Klipspinger 2.55 Albaha 12.30 Fresh Fruit Dally

3.25 Etton Lingui 3,55 Oneoftheoldones Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 12:30 FRESH FRUIT DAILY. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 12.30 Mr Speculator.

12.55 in The Van. 2.55 ALBAHA (nep). DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

12.05 RYEGRASS HANDICAP (DIV 1: \$1,944: 60) (11 miniets)

| L. U.J. RYEBRASS HAMDICAP (Div I: \$1,944: 60) (11 formers) | 101 (4) | 11414-1 LBCH CROFTER 6 (B.C.D.F.S.S) | F. Conde) | P. Conde) | R. Portons | 102 (2) 032323- BOLD ARSTOCRAT 4 (C.D.S) | 603 1 Hogbrast 1 Hogbrast 8-94 | F. Lynch (S) | 105 (9) 0060- SERVE\* 153 (Mrs.4, Subbut Mrs.1 Subbut 4-9-7 | 8 Downson | 105 (1) 044355- BALRIANS CONTESSA 8 (9) (Mrs.4 Subbut 4-9-7 | 7 Roberts (8) 93 (10) 010, 055405- SOURD THE TRIMPER 14 (8) (R Spicer) | 8 Spicer 5-9-11 | D Beckenter 9-106 (1) 055405- SOURD THE TRIMPER 14 (8) (R Spicer) | 8 Spicer 5-9-11 | D Beckenter 9-106 (1) 055405- SOURD THE TRIMPER 14 (8) (R Spicer) | 8 Spicer 5-9-11 | D Beckenter 9-106 (1) 055600- DSSENTOR 8 (V.D.LS) (B Seniol) | 1 Compos 5-9-5-1 | Senior 5-9-106 (1) 055600- DSSENTOR 8 (V.D.LS) (R Trimperson) | R Trimperson 5-9-5-1 | R Advance 9-106 (1) 055600- DSSENTOR 8 (V.D.LS) (B Seniol) | 1 Compos 5-9-5-1 | R Advance 9-107 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 8 Bechand 9-10 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 8 Bechand 9-10 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 8 Bechand 9-10 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 8 Bechand 9-10 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 8 Bechand 9-10 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 2 Bechand 9-10 (1) 000000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 2 Bechand 9-10 (1) 00000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 2 Bechand 9-10 (1) 00000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 2 Bechand 9-10 (1) 00000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 2 Bechand 9-10 (1) 00000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 2 Bechand 9-10 (1) 00000- 3 MALYMSSANGEL 74 (8) (Sundari Withs & C.D.) | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 1 Meyeria 4-7-18 | 1 Meyeria

FORM FOCUS

Littlet Chorfles hard Saver Tana 23 in 1-monary interference of Walterchampton (AW. 77), BOLD ARE-TOCRAT about 1941 3rd of 9 to Kaler in humidage cover course, and designate (AW.) SERAPE 81 7rd of 14 to Lough 5me in handleap at Lingsheld (R.), good to Brook, AMITA'S CONTESSA about 6141 5m of 10

12.30 BUTTERCUP AMATEURS HANDICAP (Div I: \$1,735: 1m 3f) (12 FIRMAN) 38 (CDLS) (there Buckless) Mas A Southeast 5-71-7. Chris William 20 (12 65/5005- SPITTRIE BRODE: 230 F.39 6 list-chart 5-71-8. A Whole CS 25 27 0000- RAMPHE STROSE 230 F.39 6 list-chart 5-71-8. If Whole CS 25 27 0000- RAMPHE STROSE 250 F.39 6 list-chart 5-71-8. If Whole CS 25 25 00000- RAMPHE STROSE 40 F.59 (the Specialism ) 1881s 4-10-7. If Shelzarily 3 (the Specialism ) 1881s (the (the Specialism (Div I: £1,735: 1m 3f) (12 runners)

FORM FOCUS

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Lingfield Park LITUTION FCI IN
Going: stendard
12.30 (77) 1, Heisered Storm (M Beird, 11-2): 2.
Statisticine 8-1): 3, Mystery Matthias (11-2).
Shortzine 11-4 tav. 12 ran. Hd. 17M D
Fisman Davis. Tota: 24 80: £1,70, £3 60, £3 70 DF £19.70. Trics £42.00. CSF. £49.64.
1.00 (St) 1. Krystal Mear (Nctoria Appalay.
100.30): 2, Machine (11-2): 3, LM 80; (4-1)
Patscappia Jack 13-8 lav 8 ran 1 kl, 2. 1
Barron. Tota: £4 80: £1.30, £7 00, £1 10. DF: £20.90. CSF. £20 47.
1.30 (79); 1, Millios (3 Weaver, 4-5 faigl; 2, 10 Ch)

22.190 CSF. E20 47. 1.90 [7] 1, Millor (J. Weaver, 4-5 tast); 2, 10 Chi 53pp (B-1); 3, The Frieldy Farmer (9-2), 12 tash. 2, 191. T. Naughton, Tolar, 11 EO, E1, 10, 62.60. 24.30. DF: Ch.20. Troc 511 EO CSF. 69 10. 2.00 (1m) 1, Royal Aly (65 Wigham, 5-2); 2 July Jackson (12-1); 3, Enlated (6-6 las), 7

RACELINE MUSSELB'GH 101 201 SOUTHWELL 102 202 IRISH 120 220 FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

ran 101, 141 P Kalleway Tour E3.00; E1.18, E5.20, DF 522.80, CSF; 528.04. 55.20. DF: 522.60. CSP: 528.04. 2.00 (1m 2) 1. Tribal Peace (G. Gerlingher, 25-1), 2. Csm Csm Charlie (25-1); 3. Suitor (4-1 km) 14 mm. Ns., sh hd. B. Gubby Tote: 252.00; csm 08. Cst-30, 51.10. DF: 5226.80 CSP: 5486.52 Tricost 52,758.76. CSP: \$488.33 (Figure 12.140.14)
3.00 (Sh. 1; Just Loui (D. Swaeney, 5-2); 2, Pospolien Timbs (10-1); 3, Peitle Durssusse (Sh. 1), The Wijerdootle Inn. 9-1 41v. 6 ran. 154, 154, 154 Tumber, Totar Ct. 10, ct. 10. 65.00. DF-\$18.30. CSF: \$22.18.

PRCHARD VANS Nape DOMINO FLYER (3.55 Southwell) Next best Klipspinger (2.25 Southwell)

S.50-(1m 58 1. Yet Agein (S Sanders, 8-15 feet, Private Hieroficapper's top eating); 2, Reservel (12-1); 3, Sessiver (20-1); 11 cm 34, 17, Miss. G. Kelsevey, Tole: E1.50; E1.00, 24.10, E5.80, CF-26.40, Tiles 540, 251, 255 Jackgott C13,077.30 (0.09 winning tickets. Pool of C18,761.15 carried forward to Support C19,761.05 carried forward to Support C177.80. Quadpott D85.10.

SUNKSRED FRST TIME: Musselburgh: 1 10 About Micropht. Southwell: 12.05 Balinsky, Ballytissangel. 1 55 Dorng Han, Tristyn's Corner 3.25 First Gold

STATEMER S-2 State (Int., S-1 Miss East, B-1 From Lungler, Lost in The Pearl, Missian Hymn, 10-1 Edge Abund Woon Unit, 12-7 misses.

THE HO COMPANY AND PASS

SLIDE ON that NEADOW HYNNY (7th batter oilly 51 in National Hand Fall store at Havebook (2m. good to soilly on providenate shot. MOON DEVIC. Intelligent that Fall store at Havebook (2m. good to soilly, FERN LEADER 20; this of 23 to large Sharing to confined according to a Haveby Castle (2m. good). MEADOW HYNNY 22 7th of 24 to Mr. Selection; SUIDE ON

1.20 BUTTERCUP AMATEURS HANDICAP (Div It: £1,735: 1m 3f) (12 runners)

| Company | Comp SETTMIC 7-4 Pander Geot, 5-1 Kinestach, Main Aubr, 8-1 Smails Wooder, 12-1 Roy's Shilon Unbenderschafer, Weight: 16-1 offers TOTE: NO COMPESSOURING DAMES

FORM FOCUS

STERES INDICENT that when 121 had of it in Troubedown Song in change over course and delimination of Ripon (for 21, paral). Indicates (MM), Jul 98.

CONTROL (MM), Jul 98.

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Wine New N. UOCKEYS
44 982 21.4 J Newser
7 35 200 0 Herman
20 115 17.4 0 Pers
27 172 15.7 F Lynch
11 15 14.7 K Hermy Weeners Rules % 40 252 19.0 19 100 17.6 10 67 14.9 15 107 118 7 52 13.5 TRAINERS

☐ The British Horseracing Board yesterday announced a second batch of replacement fixtures to compensate for recent abandonments: January 30, Folkestone; 31, Taunton; February I. Stratford; 6, Kelso; 7, Towcester, 13, Catterick; 14 Newcastle.

### GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

TOTAL TITLE - 6-0422 - 6000 TIMES 74 (CD.NF.F.G.S) Mrs D Reducent 8 Had 9-10-0 - 8 Whee (4) - 38 transport controlled the transport of the property of the prop

1.55 DAISY CLAMBING STAKES (£2,294: 2m) (16 runners)

BETTER 5-2 3 Size 5-1 After Willow, 6-1 Record Laws, 8-1 States, 10-1 Gamester, Desiry Hen, 12-1 found less, 16-1 after

1996. EULOGY 9-8-8 | Action (12-1) | E Barlon 18 rate

PECORD LOVER 171 Cast of 9 to Scales Hafters on hardcap core course and distance (ARY) SHACKYR. Hard feet all 5 to Lord Advocation in bandoces of hardcap core course and distance (ARY) SHACKYR. Hardbon (4th 54, good) on perulomate start. EL hardbon (4th 54, go 2.25 RYEGRASS HANDICAP

(Div II: £1.944: 61) (10 numers)

| Common | C Long banding: State > Matter ?-? Pur layers 7-5 India Red 7-0

SETTING: 5-2 Bucking Settings, 4-1 Elipspanger, 9-2 Coupe Boy 7-1 Lath Silv, 8-1 Fastivestons Late, 9-1 St. Tabler 12-1 offers 1992 NO CORRESPONDING DINESTRI

### FORM FOCUS

PEATHERSTRIKE LANE best ellert about 40 bit of 12 bit for frosty in stricts in baredisep at Lenghett (AMI SQ) on peach true stati.

LEPEPHOER head 3-d of 10 bit Entited Liety in baredisep over course and destance (AMI) on penulturate course course and destance (AMI) on penulturate

2.55 cowslip Limited Stakes (£3,388: 1m 4f) (7 runners)

2) 313000- FAR ANEAD 34 (D.F.G.S) (Surgina Polisions, J.Eyre 5-9-5 .... O Paste (3) 91 66 51300-6 FREMER DANCE 4 (CD.F.G) U.Fex (D.Fayro, Jones 12-9-1 ... A Clark 59 31 40001-2 ALBANA 4 (CD.BF.G.) (IX Packaging) J Sants 4-9-13 ... J Clark 69 220394- DANCINS CAVALER 108 (C.G.) (Inter 8 s) R Hollinchad 4-9-11 D Scrifton (5) (1) 00346 GALIVER 107 (P Green) N Water 4-8-11 (4) 680063- STRL HERE 27 (6) (Atc.; J Andrews; P Bower 4-8-11 (7) 013-905- CROLED 77 (6) (Art. A Harry; J Harry 4-9-8 8 (4) 650003- STEL HERE 27 (6) (Abc.; J Andrews; P Bower 4-8-11 . 5 Drawer 36 7 (7) 015,505- CIRCLED 77 (6) (Abr. A Hams) J Herns 4-8-8. 5 Sentiers — 8FTTHKS 5-4 Albana, 3-1 Denoting Carroles, 7-1 Fee Ahead, 8-1 Soil Hore, 18-1 Galiner, 14-1 other: 1996. CELESTIAL CHOIR 6-9-1 R Lapput (6-4) J Syrc 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

FAR AHEAD 172 8th of 12 to Prince Danzig in business at Wolvertompton (AW, Im 41) with PRE-AMER DANCE (1to better off) 141 10th, ALBAHA 51 2nd of 11 to Conse Castle in Producing here (AW, Im 41) month of 11 to Conse Castle in Producing here (AW, Im 41) month on penulometer 2nd (ELLINER 42 ki 6th of 11 m 30 with PREAMER CANTOC (1to better out) 689 11th Previously heat Royal Legenc 171 in 7-number 100 Gapter for in machine at Control (1th 152 for first of 159 of 100 Gapter for in machine at Control (1th 152 for first of 159 of 11 to Control (1th 152 for first of 159 of 11 to Control (1th 152 for first of 150 for first of 11 to Control (1th 152 for first of 11 to Control (

3.25 BLUEBELL SELLING STAKES (£2,085.71) (16 runners)

2 20500- AMAREM 146 P. (S. Mallor) S. Mallor 4-8-12

4 3 38124-2 B. TOM LEDGER 9 (V.CD.F.G.) (Porse) Mrs. M. Macaniny 5-8-12

5 3 122, DODGS-6 PRIST GOILD 7 (V.CD.F.G.) (Porse) Mrs. M. Macaniny 5-8-12

5 142, DODGS-6 PRIST GOILD 7 (V.CD.F.G.) (Porse) Mrs. M. Macaniny 5-8-12

6 15 144, DISSEMBLE 99 (C.D.F.G.) (Partner Pirt.) J. Whathon 4-8-12

7 114, DISSEMBLE 99 (C.D.F.G.) (Partner Pirt.) J. Whathon 4-8-12

6 15 20020-3 SEA DEVIL 9 (C.D.F.G.) (A Geather M. Canacho 11-8-12

7 11 8665-3 SEASE OF PRORITY 4 (L.D.F.G.) (M. Soute) D. Machalle, 8-12

8 (40 0200- SUARDETON 461-1 (D.F.) (Mrs. H. Drambert), Mrs. M. Routins 7-2-12

9 (2) 00200- VISIADOTON 461-1 (D.F.) (Mrs. H. Drambert), Mrs. M. Routins 7-2-12

10 (16) 02200- USIADOTON 461-1 (D.F.) (Mrs. H. Drambert), Mrs. M. Routins 7-2-12

11 (11) 0000-40 HAVAMA MESS 2 (St. Mrs. I. Hechani) B. Fulling 1-6-7

12 (13) 420605- JAREER DO 10 1A Rotorty B. Pallory 5-8-7

13 (10) 5-646-9 d. HLY EVENEL 9 9 (P.D. Express) H. Trambous 6-4-7

15 (15) 00060-0 MAYSMR 9 (R. Forestry) S. Campson 7-8-7

16 (6) 015400- MRSS CHARLE 2 (D.F.) (B. Berney) A. Balley 7-8-7

8ETTINGE 7-2 From Ledger, 13-2 Son Davit, 7-1 Sense Of Prombt, 15-2 Magor Mouse, 16-1 First Gots, 12-1

BETTINGS 7-2 from Ledger, 13-2 Son David, 7-1 Sense Of Franky, 15-2 Major Majors, 16-1 First Gold, 12-1 Januar Do. 14-1 others 1996, FRST GOLD 7-8-12 S D Williams (10-1) J Wanton 14 (2)

FORM FOCUS AWAFEN 12 Bm of 11 to Move With Fors in bandacap at Wohertempton (AW 71) ELTON LEADER 11 2nd of 11 to Assume in distinct over Course and distance (AW) with SEA DEVIA (Italia notice of 3) 2d 3nd and HAVANA MISS (60th worse

3.55 PRIMROSE HANDICAP (£3,289: 1m) (12 runners)

Long landicat. Scanish Shaper 7-7 BETTINGS 5-7 Dymano Fiver 4-1 Three Aich Bindge, 5-1 Obelos 7-1 Principal Bay, 8-1 Nordic Streeze Gui Shandi, 12-1 often:

1996: MAPLE BAY 7-9-4 P Roberts (3-1) A Bailey 13 ran FORM FOCUS

OBELOS 3 2nd of 12 to Greencen in claimer at Workerhampton (AW), for 11 79/d) DOMINO FLY-ER local Decell Wooder 31 in 17-numer amaliques handwarp over course and distance (AW), THREE ARCH BRIDGE 2\*41 Am of 11 to Cate.

## MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER 12.40 Falcon's Flame. 1.10 Nutty Solera. 1.45 Doubling Dice. 2.75 Monymen, 2.45 Superiop, 3.15 Putten, 3.45 ALWARQA (nap). GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES)

7.30AM INSPECTION 12.40 EVENATER MADES MINISTE

7-4 Extent's Plane, 9-4 Showalla, 5-5 Unity Execution, 8-1 Gazzarii 18-1 Juliosid, 74-1 Reel Of All, 16-1 plants.

1.10 OVERATER MADDE ROPPLE

QUANT ST. STOR. 2010 (10)

1 GPM SHAPLE BAY 23 STEEM \$717. GCMbyer 23

3 MISS. PILENSE 36 N. Extr. 5777. C. O'Doyer 23

3 MISS. PILENSE 36 N. Extr. 5777. R. Control 24

4 GAL. MUTTY SOLERA 14 AD C. Paren 7-17-7 R. Cantrol 24

5 R. R.O. ABOUT MORRHAFT 30 AD C. Extr. 3 8-17-7 A. D. Dobb 16

6 ZPM DECENT PERMY 332 Mrs. 5 Acher 3-17-7 A. D. Dobb 17

7 ASP. MUTTEL LOCAL 22 R. Machanes 5-17-2 A. D. Dobb 17

6 R.O. BOL ASPECT PERMY 332 Mrs. 5 Acher 3-17-2 A. D. Bestley 17

9 OF LIMEACS LADY 56 B. Machanes 5-17-2 G. D. Bestley 19

10 MISS. RESPECTABLE 36 Corp. Smath 4-18-9 P. Norm 19

10 MISS. RESPECTABLE 36 Corp. Smath 4-18-9 P. Norm 19

11 MISS. RESPECTABLE 36 Corp. Smath 4-18-9 P. Norm 19

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10 MISS. RESPECTABLE 36 Corp. Smath 4-18-9 P. Norm 19

10 MISS. RESPECTABLE 36 Corp. Smath 4-18-9 P. Norm 19

10 MISS. RESPECTABLE 36 MISS. RESPECTABLE 2-1 Expression 7-2 Combach Lady, 6-1 Meso Pitestr 7-1 Meny Solico, 8-1 Manuel Lock, 19-1 Decembly Resul, 14-1 (2005)

1.45 LEGIS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

11-4 Trimminus, 5-4 Teny's (Incom. 7-4 Septent, 8-1 Carlon Lady, Techno, 18-1 Burl's Bel, Righter 12-1 Depthing Giver Mass Wast, 14-1 Sep You Allanya, 16-1 Blace Latinon, 25-1 Enhant Of Science.

2.15 HOPESWATER NOVICES CHASE (£3,098, 2m) (6) Event Manyount, 2-1 Herbert Ladge, 6-1 Develoy, 8-1 Elliphia Work, 25-1 Alexanger XS-1 Gove Actions

2.45 MUSSELBURGH 10TH ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP HURDLE (\$3,693° 3m) (9)

1 223 TALLYWAGGER 24 (D.85-F,6) & Morre 18-72-0. T Hogg (7) \$\bigsep \)
2 2151 SUPERTOP 24 (CD.F.6) \( \text{Lusp} \) 8-11-12 \\
3 -966 DOMBHE 21 (8.D.6.5) \( \text{R Baley} \) 9-11-6 \\
4 -111 SHOW BOARD 34 (D.F.5) \( \text{Mr. M Loses} \) 3-10-6 Dezek Byrce 93
5 -022 O'ARBLAY STREET 14 (8.5) \( \text{M kmp 6-10-1} \) 5 McDougal 95
6 PP03 BOSTOR MAN 21 R Woodboxe 6-18-0 \\
5 - F54- MOROKK 315-6 Moharte 8-10-0 \\
8 - 4-33 HIGHLAND PAPK 56 (F) R Cappe 11-10-5 \\
9 P500 RUBER 30 (F.8.5) R Tourson 10-10-0 \\
9 P500 RUBER 30 (F.8.5) R Tourson 10-10-0 \\
9 P500 RUBER 30 (F.8.5) R Tourson 10-10-0 \\
9 P500 RUBER 30 (F.8.5) R Tourson 10-10-0 \\
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9 P500 RUBER 30 (F.8.5) R Tourson 10-10-0 \\
9 P50

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Bailey, 3 winners from 5 numers, 50 0%, J Berry, 3 hom 7, 42.9%, M Hammond, 24 hom 80, 27.3%, C Pester, 7 from 32, 27.9%, L Lasgo, 5 from 24, 20.5%, Mas M Remiley, 7 from 34, 20.9%, JOCKEYS: R Carristy, 8 numers from 22 rides, 25 0%; P Nivron, 11 from 53, 20.6%, D Parker, 7 hom 36, 20 0%, J Callaghan, 6 from 33, 18.2%, D Bastiley, 4 from 29, 14.3%, 7 Reed, 9 from 73, 12.3%

## 3.15 MUSSELBURGH 10TH ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP CHASE (£3.536, 2m 41) (7)

1 5532 PURITAR 24 (B.CD.F.G.S) N Timber B-12-0 ... R Carroy 97
2 5-41 MONTRANE 24 (CD.F.G.S) Mandelin B-17-4 ... A Delton 97
3 3513 WAYLPHAL 14 (D.B.F.G.S) C Parler 10-10-11 ... B Storey 68
4 U-52 RAPID MOVER 24 (B.C.F.G.D Notes 10-10-10 M Mobiney 97
5 6322 REBEL MINE 23 F.G.M Barres 7-10-8 ... S Taylor (5) 94
6 4335 SPAND SCENGRY 32 (CD.F.G) J Johnson 9-10-8 A P McCoy 98
7 3123 VAL DE RAMA 48 (F.G.) Deny. Smith 8-10-8 ... P Niven 98 9-4 Montrave, 11-4 Puntan, 4-1 Wayuphili, 6-1 Repid Mover, 8-1 Retail King, 10-1 Grand Scenery, Val De Rama

3.45 WHITEWATER HOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,637° 2m 4f) (15)

(£2,637-2m 4f) (15)

1 5010 STYLSH INTERVAL 25 (F) N Waggell 5-11-10 A P McCoy 90
2 6421 FLYAWAY BLUES 37 (G) Mrs M Revoley 5-11-9 P Rhein 93
3 4-75 DONT FURGET GURTIS 34 66 Moore 5-11-4 J Caltaghan 90
4 5791 COURT JUNGER 31 (6) H Alexander 5-11-3 B Storey 96
5 30-6 CAMAAN VALLEY 16) H Alexander 5-11-3 F Perrat 96
6 6-61 FRYUP SATELLITE 23 (6) Mrs J Brown 5-11-2 F Caltaghan (3) 95
7 530-P DIFFICULT DECISION 31 Mrs M Jones 6-11-9 Dorok Byrne 91
8 JOHN ALLSKO 282 (6) R AURO 7-10-11 S Meltruse (7) 90
MR CHRISTIE 31 Mrs L Soddell 5-10-11 A Thombon 93
10 4-12 JONES AMISTRAL 32 (D.BF.G) D Camb 7-10-7 J Barlon 97
11 PHP ANCHORENA 22 (D.F) D Barlon 7-10-7 R McGraft (5) 98
11 90-7 MANCHORENA 22 (D.F) D Sarlon 5-10-7 R McGraft (5) 98
12 502 WHAY JIM WANTS 9F JJ (7) Mrs J Mr

4-1 Amergo. 5-1 Physicsy Blass, 6-1 Dool Forget Cartis, Fryap Saleddo, 7-1 Court. John, B-1 Nings Marchal, 10-1 Mr Chrothe, Sylich Internet 12-1 Concern Valley, Distant Decision, More Champagne, 14-1 others.

## Embattled England coach stands by his gung-ho approach despite media ridicule

## Time running out for Lloyd to revive England

man walks into a pet shop and, spotting a handsome red-drested parrot, asks its price. Ten quid," the shop owner says. As he reaches for his wallet, the costomer sees another bird, with a fine beak and blue eathers, "That one's twenty," the owner says.

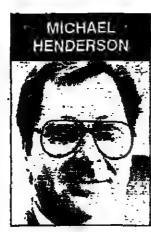
"How much is that one there?" the customer asks, pointing out a bald parrot with faded colours. "One hundred." How on earth do you work that out?" he says. "Well, to you and me, he looks a bit of a mess. But all the other birds

call him boss."

David Lloyd has heard funnier jokes in his time and, as a notable after-dinner speaker. he has told a good few. The boot is on the other foot now. England's cricketers, who began their tour of New Zealand this week, have been battered by the ferocious winds of media scorn and it is his job as coach to help to win back the public's trust. Even for one of life's optimists it is a

mighty task.

Ask if he still enjoys the job after enduring the abuse heaped upon himself in Zimcabwe and he answers: "Love it". But he is no fool. "I understand that we have a long way to go, and there will be some casualties along the



taking heavy flak

that if England play as wretch-edly as they did before Christ-

fan and if we win 1-0 with a goal in the last minute then

mas, he will be one of the first. His phrase, "we murdered them", muttered in the aftermath of the drawn Test in Bulawayo, when England finished level on runs, has already become part of English sporting folklore. He does not repine, and sees no reason to retract a syllable. If anything he has become more emphatic, and will carry on banging the drum for his players. "I'm a Manchester United

"I want us to scrap, and

A large part of his job, he says, is to "educate" the play-

I come from nobody bars an eyelid if you say that. I could easily have said 'we were in a position of some strength' but I'm not like that. I know the English have a history of the stiff upper lip, but it's not for me. Part of my job is to get a team that plays with passion and fervour for the country, not to do a job of work. Now, what people make of that doesn't worry me at all. My bosses had a quiet word with me in Harare, which turns out to be 'a threat of the sack'. I read one report that said I had to be restrained in the Zimbadressing-room, which was libelious. I wasn't even

Like everybody else connected with the England camp he thinks the players cop too much of a bagging from the written media. "You could fill up newspapers with stories of what editors get up to," he said. "The disappointing thing is that former England players jump on the bandwagon when they know exactly what the problems are with English cricket, and what has to be done. I say, 'keep your mouth shut and get on the golf

We are a great nation to ridiculing ourselves, and I know what some of the reporters have to write. Some write well, and some write crap. I have no problem with most of them as people but please don't ask me to spend Christmas with them at a panto. I had no say in the decision not to attend that do [the press revuel. It was the players.

light, and turn games round. I had a little spat with a bloke after the Test in Bulawayo, but it was nothing more than a spat. Now I understand that I can't do that. I have not caused offence to him but I understand that I have to apologise. We shook hands afterwards, and he gave me a tie. All right, I will have to be more careful, but I'm not going to change too

ers. England have played some decent cricket in recent years but, when a Test match lies in the balance, awaiting its defining moment, it is rarely an England player that claims the initiative. "We must start to eradicate the bad day, like the first day at Headingley last summer, and then the bad session," he said. "But to be competitive at Test level, and to give our cricketers every



chance to succeed, we have to restrict our domestic cricket. Our players do not play more Tests than many others but, with the county commitments ween Tests and one-day internationals, they are worked harder and longer than other players.

Whenever I saw Wasim Akram [the Pakistan captain] before a Test match last summer, I would ask him 'where have you been?" and he would

say 'I've not been playing cricket'. He was resting, and so was Wagar Younis. Our three leading pace bowlers missed parts of last season because they had injuries. This is one result of asking them to bowl like men when they are really just boys."

Younger men will get international chances earlier in future for, as Lloyd says. Shah to Zimbabwe last winter with the under-19 team when he was 17, and he made 139 in seven hours in that heat and altitude, which suggests he has some pedigree.

"He played only four or five championship matches for Middlesex and when we rang up his parents to check his availability for this winter they thought we meant he would be going on another under-19 tour. Alex Tudor, the young

bowler at Surrey, wasn't fit but if he had been the least he could have expected was a chance with the A team. Chris; Silverwood has made his Test debut after one full season of

county cricket." Lloyd met Lord MacLaurin. the new chairman of the English Cricket Board, in Zimbabwe and found him "all right", which is a compliment in Accrington. "I found him

blinkered, by which I mean

that he knows what he wants. He will support us but he that support in our perfor-

So his new year hopes are giving a more consistent level of performance, showing pride in playing for England, and starting to win Test matches and one-day internationals. It has been rammed home to us in the last month how important that is."

BOWLS

Russell and Lloyd check batting technique on playback

## Price and **Bell** take Australian pairs title

By DAVID RITYS JONES

JOHN BELL, of Cumbria. produced the perfect answer to the English indoor bowls selectors, who left him out of the international trial last Sunday, when he and Mary Price, of the Desborough club, in Maidenhead, won the Merrylands International mixed pairs title in Sydney yesterday.

Bell, a jovial man off the green but a fierce competitor on it, stopped short of thumbing his nose at the English officials he recently criticised so harshly but, aware that he had made his point, he was bubbling with enthusiasm for the event, the format, and the rinks at the Merrylands dub - one of only three indoor clubs in Australia.

"It's the best indoor green I've ever played on," he said.
"Ours in Carlisle is excellent, but this is even better, with all eight rinks running identically. It's even more remarkable. because the Australians do not have much experience at laying indoor greens."

Price is recovering from operations on her knees but the women's national outdoor singles champion stood up well to her task, as the English pair qualified in second place in the ten-team round robin, then moved up a gear in the semi-finals yesterday. Beating Dorothy Roche and

Sam Laguzza, of New South Wales, 1849, they took on Edda Bonuno, of Queensland, and Mark McMahon, of Hong Kong, in the final, and struck a telling blow when they claimed a six on the tenth end. Leading 16-15 after 14, they still needed a score on the last end, but a double saw them home. Amy Gowshall, 17, of Grimsby, who has skipped for England juniors for three seasons on grass, will lead a rink in the first ever under-25 indoor international between England and Wales at Malvern tomorrow week.

### RUGBY UNION: ILLNESS DEPRIVES JENKINS OF FULL BACK ROLE FOR WALES

## Thomas comes in from cold

BY DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NEIL JENKINS, the Punty-pridd stand-off half due to play full back for Wales against United States tomorrow, has been forced to withdraw. Jenkins has been suffering from influenza and his place will be taken by Justin Thomas, Jonathan Davies joins the replacements. Thomas has won eight caps

but has taken time to adjust after moving from Llanelli to Cardiff, conceding the national position first to Wayne Proctor and, after his injury, to Jenkins, who is Wales' leading points-scorer. The Eagles, meanwhile, introduce one newcomer for their first meeting with Wales since 1987. Brian Hightower will play on

the left wing. Gareth Adams, the hooker who toured Australia with England A in 1995 after playing for Bath in the Pilkington Cup final that year, has been advised to retire. A neck injury has been deemed sufficiently serious that, were he to continue playing rugby, he could

student at Bath University, began this season as his club's first-choice hooker and last played against Dax in the Heineken Cup in October. But he has been told that further wear and tear to his neck. damage to which forced him to take a year out from the sport, could increase the risk. He started his career as a flanker and captained Eng-

land Under-21 from that position but, aware that he was built on the small side, moved to hooker in the hope of advancing his career. "Even before I changed position I knew I had a weakness to one side of my body but I wouldn't have done all I have done in rugby if I had not switched to hooking," he said.

Bath, weather permitting, will play Harlequins at the Stoop Memorial Ground in the Courage Clubs Championship tomorrow, a match in which the London club are unable to field Gary Connolly. The Wigan centre, who is due to return to rugby league after this weekend, has a knee injury, so Robbie Paul will partner Will Carling and Jim Staples makes a welcome reing from a broken jaw sustained at Bath a month ago. However, Leicester's hones of giving Joel Stransky, their South African signing at stand-off half. a league debut at Northampton have been put on ice; the weather has given Stransky no opportunity either to play a second-XV game or to train effectively with his new colleagues and he may now have to wait until

the game tomorrow. A back injury to Rob Liley has cleared up and he retains the position, and will do so in the build-up towards the Heineken Cup final, against Brive, on January 25, for which Stransky is ineligible. However, an ankle injury to Leon Lloyd gives Rory Underwood a further opportunity to press his claims for a place in the cup final.

next month, though he will be

among the replacements for

Wasps, due to play Bristol, will be without Damian Hopley for the rest of the season. The powerful centre, capped three times by England, has required a second operation on the knee he may be able to start training once more in March, but cannot play until next season. which will also prevent him helping in the defence of England's World Cup sevens title in two months' time.

UNITED STATES: IN WILMON (SCHOOLDERS LINE).

Life Collegel, M. Schaumenberg (Reading), B. Hightoner (Schollens), A. Span); M. Alexander (Denker Barbasters), A. Bachelet, Reading); R. Lehner (Bockhasti), T. Billage (Blackhasti), T. Billage (Blackh □ Nine years after he last

played for Scotland in the five nations' championship, Alan Tait yesterday began his rugby union rehabilitation when he was selected yesterday for the A team to play Wales at Goldenacre a week today (Mark Souster writes). Tait, 32, returned from rugby league with Leeds this sumleague with Leeds this summer to join the growing Scottish contingent at Newcastle,
SCOTLAND & D Lee (Wasonams; J
Caig (Bites of Scotland, A Tell
Newcastle), P Rouse (Durdee HSFP, C
Glasgow Photoris, D Hodge (Watsonars), A Nacol (Staft), G Gwilman,
Newcastle), S Brotrovstone (Mairoso), P
Wight (Mairoso), E Poles (Staft), S
Campboll (Melross), S Grinss (Watsonars), S Homes (London Scotlast), C
Hogg (Melroso), Capteril Replatements: S
Lang Henot's), S Weath (Homek), D
Paterson (Presol's), C Melror (Watsonars), J Marson (Saling County), G
Badoch (Worl of Bestiand)



## Elite of eight clubs may provide way forward

Wales this season is to conclude that there is no shortage of talent. It may well be, as the matches against English teams have proved, that individual clubs may lack the strength in depth, but this is not to say there is insufficient talent to sustain a full list of clubs in Wales's first division.

With the success of the European competition, there is more reason than ever to strengthen the domestic competition. Unlike many English clubs who have the option to employ expensive imports, the Welsh clubs have to rely on home grown talent. There may have to be a change in strategic thinking to provide the opportunities to bring out the best in

In future the number of clubs may not add up to the present 12. But there is capacity for eight, which in fact is the way it used to be. Long

before the league system existed, in the days of unofficial championships and merit tables, this figure represented the approximate number of strong clubs who provided the stiff contests within Wales. It is now a matter of consolidating where those traditional strengths lay.

Bearing in mind that the spread of clubs does not stretch much beyond the 80-mile coastal plain from Newport to Llanelli, this figure is hardly likely to change. It is to be regretted that, during the past six years, no new strong clubs have emerged north of this line.

Nonetheless, there is still a rich vein of talent. The difficulty is to channel young players correctly. Too often, too many players are wasted or do not realise their full potential. The clubs wish to have their full quota of good players within their squad. Since the first-division clubs do not have a second team, it means Gerald Davies finds no lack of talented players

in the valleys but that

changes may be needed

that a large section of the squad, the second-choice players, do not play enough games. This is especially true of younger players.

There is an increasing trend for a club coach to go on scouting missions to schools. This may be prodent policy to ensure a club's development and continuity, but joining a large squad may deny the young player the valuable playing experience he needs at a critical time. Every player requires his period of

potenticeship. So where does this lead? To the necessity in the end to retain eight strong clubs in Wales. To reduce it ally for the top bonours. This further would limit where young talent could play top-class rugby.

There is no need for rugby to be

represented, as some have argued, by provinces or districts. Rather, it is the clubs who should adopt a provincial responsibility, in playing and administration terms, so that, for instance, Llanelli will become the centre of excellence for the west and towards which all noteworthy players in the area will aspire. Swansea would become the focus for its population and the valleys that feed

Putting their differences and histories aside, Neath and Aberavon might amalgamate, as indeed might Maesteg and Bridgend. Cardiff and Pontypridd have large enough populations from which to draw enough players to satisfy both clubs. Indeed, year in year out, despite their close proximity they are competing annureaffirms that there is independent life in both of them.
Finally, to the black hole that exists

in that area once known as Gwent. Within it there are six clubs that were once thought to be of leading status. This is no longer true. Nor are they likely to recover their status in the future. There are three clubs in the first division but none is doing particularly well. Might not these clubs pool their resources to form two influential clubs, one of which would be Newport with the other one representing the valleys.

Other clubs in these eight areas would form a network of "feeder" clubs, channelling their best players to the recognised centre of excellence. This system would function in a similar way to that which exists in New Zealand and South Africa, but would only differ administratively to that which once existed in Wales.

\_\_\_\_\_

DANCING

## Star Ball marks ' < rapid rise for couple

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

TIMOTHY HOWSON and Joanne Bolton, former leading dancers, continued their rapid rise through the professional ranks in the early hours of yesterday morning with their showing in the final of the Star Ball, the first international

championship of the year. After a three-round contest across the four dances of waitz, tango, foxtrot and quickstep, Howson and Bolton, from High Wycombe, were placed fourth, their best

result in a top-flight championship. Some judges, however, placed them as high as second in some dances, a sign of their rapid progress and that they could soon be challenging more experienced couples.

The winners were Luca Baricchi and Loraine Barry, the England No 2 couple, who, along with Marcus and Karen Hilton, will represent their country at the world championships in November. The Hiltons, who did not dance at the Star, have never been beaten by Baricchi and Barry. Seven times the world champions, they are favourites to win when they meet at the open UK championships in Bournemouth later this month.

Howson's result cannot be taken as a guide to his world ranking because of the number of top dancers who withdrew because of injury and influenza. Their performance is an indication that England has up-and-coming dancers who could enable Britain to remain dominant, although couples from countries such as Italy are becoming more difficult to beat.

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In the Latin section, won by a couple from Finland, England had two couples in the final, the highest placed being Paul Richardson and Jorna Dawson in third,

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## Warning signals that flash danger round the globe

The spate of rescues in the Southern Ocean should force a debate on how

to make round-the-world races safer. Marcus Hutchinson suggests

single-handed non-stop skipper. He alone must determine round-the-world, yacht race whether his boat is sale, whether he has enough food and water on board and whether he should head is very much one of autonomy and self-sufficiency. Compared with other round the world races, there this way or that. He could choose a are no million-dollar budgets, few e real restrictions and, for the winner, no prize money, just prestige. Sailing is a mechanised sport Designers, engineers and builders spend months and months agonising over the shape and structure of these advanced craft. Speed and safety are the two principal criteria.

But, as with all industrial design

exercises, there is a certain amount

of compromise involved and, inev-

However, the ultimate responsi-

heavy boat built of steel that would take a year to sail the course. Or he could opt for a light boat made of composites that would do it in only one bondred days. The skipper, although carrying lots of salety equipment - such as liferaits, emergency beacons and survival suits - is never under any

rescue is guaranteed. Ultimately this event will be selfpolicing. Competitors in future races are always going to have the

Illusions that, in an emergency, a

images of this Vendée Globe race in

the back of their minds when they motivate themselves to find the money to compete. The risks are clear and the consequences of making the wrong decisions have In spite of this, there will be rule

additions when this race is over, such as requiring the skippers to sail a more northerly course through the Southern Ocean and further design regulations governing structural strengen and stability. The Vendee fleet is not the only one that should take note. however. The lessons apply to all ocean races.

So what exactly went wrong in the Southern Ocean? Why have three competitors been the subject of daring rescues over the past fortnight, at a cost of millions of dollars? Has single-handed sailing become 100 dangerous?

Some of these boats are old and ill-equipped. Some are sailed into weather conditions that neither they nor their skippers are in a state to cope with. Some are just plain

unlucky, meeting the kind of statistical conditions that would cause a North See oil platform to collapse.

In Torr. Bullimore's case a rescue was necessary because the keel fell off Eride Chailenger - a structural failure. For Thierry Dubois, his Pour Amnesty International was unable to recover from a capsize even with its keel intact.

The unforgenable sight of Dubois perched on his upturned boat was a graphic reminder of the excessive beam (width) and lack of ireeboard the height from the waterline to the deck level) that is typical of the Open 60s. This makes them more likely to stay upside down than to right themselves. Raphael Dinelli's sinking, meanwhile, reinforces the potential danger of a simple dismasting, when a broken spar can pierce the hull.

Structural failure, as Bullimore's case, is the result of compromises or errors which can happen in design, construction or operation. Ultimate stability, or the lack of it, as with Dubois, is easy to calculate and the skipper should have known about his boar's properties and have made the decision to race with that knowledge. A broken mast destroying a boat (Dinelli) can only be bad luck.

questionable decisions of the past two weeks must be noted and analysed. We are fortunate that. thanks to technology, the skill of the Australians and the tenacity of the heroes in this saga, we have a massive amount of first-hand experience to act on. We have an opportunity to make this and other races safer in the future, so that this kind of sailing may continue to attract the world's most ambitious

competitors.

The author is a yacht designer. writer and a former editor of Seahorse.

> Bullimore saved, page 1 Sports Letters, page 42

### BOXING

## Akinwande prepares to fight for recognition

By Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent.

HENRY AKINWANDE is the only world-class British beavyweight with an unbeaten record, yet few in Britain recognise him as a serious contender for the undisputed \*\* \* world title. That could change when Akinwande, the holder, defends his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) title against Scott Welch, the undefeated British champion, in Nashville, Tennessee,

tomorrow. Experts have long ignored Akinwande's achievements.

He beat Axel Schulz, of Germany, for the European title in 1993, and even though two that victory was underlined when Schulz beat George Foreman - but lost the verdict on a contentious decision few gave Akinwande his due.

Even when he won the WBO title last June by knocking out Jeremy Williams, of the United States, in three rounds in California, he was and a considered no more than a second division champion.

Everyone acknowledges that Akinwande is hard to beat but few see him as true world champion material. After he defended his WBO title against Alexander Zolkin recently in Las Vegas he said:
I showed people here I'm not just an ordinary British heavyweight. I showed people I can box, and box well. I kind of find it funny that people know that here but cannot see it in

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WALL STREET

Britain." The lack of acceptance in Britain could have something to do with Akinwande's retiring nature, which does not taken back to Lagos by his land itself to hype, and the fact parents when he was seven, lend itself to hype, and the fact that the supporters have not forgotten his bout with Johnny Nelson, which is regarded as the most boring ten rounds ever seen in a British ring. Critics even believed that he could not fill a small London hall without the support of local boxers.

But this bout could awaken the attention of the British public because Welch, of Brighton, like Akinwande a former ABA champion, is aggressive and tough enough to cause an upset even though he is not highly rated in world terms. Welch has already the contest, accusing

Akinwande, who lives in Florida, of turning his back on

Don Turner, Akinwande's trainer, who was in Evander Holyfield's corner for his bout with Mike Tyson, believes Britain will finally have to recognise Akinwande when he becomes undisputed world champion, beating Tyson and Lennox Lewis on the way.

Turner, who has had Akinwande in his care for seven months, said yesterday: Herny is one of the best fighters I have ever trained. He is just a step behind Evander. I have no doubt that when Evander retires Henry will become the top

eavyweight.
"When he came to me; I knew from his height [6ft 7in] he had the strength to do anything that it took to be-come a great fighter. His left jab is really strong, just like Larry Holmes's and Joe Louis's. I just told him to be more aggressive and not hold too much. I guess I just woke him up to what he's capable of.
You saw what Evander did

to Tyson, pushed him about like a rag doll, it'll be the same when Tyson meets Henry. He is right up there with the top three heavyweights. It won't be long before he rounds up all four titles."

It was not surprising to hear Turner talking so highly about Akinwande. The champion who also held the Commonwealth title, has had a distinguished career.

Akinwande, who was born in Dulwich in 1965 and was returned to Britain at the age of 18 to become a boxer. He was inspired by the Dutch boxer, Arnold Vanderlejide, in the Los Angeles Olympics. He worked as a road sweeper in the Trafalgar Square area and for long months lived on bread and water. He joined the Lynn Boxing Club and won the ABA title twice, beating Herbie Hide for the second title.

Akinwande represented Britain in the Seoul Olympics but, strangely, was beaten by Vanderlejide. He turned professional in 1989 with Mickey Duff and remained unbeaten for 29 contests, joining King in



## Evans high on list for birthday honours in London

BY DAVID POWELL

PAUL EVANS wants the whole of London to share his 36th birthday celebrations. For his party piece, he is planning to win the Flora London Marathon on April 13. Evans became only the third Briton to break 2hr 09min when he won the Chicago Marathon in October and it has made a new athlete of him. He intends to prove it in London, where he races Richard Nerurkar, Britain's most reliable championship marathan runner, over the distance

The strongest British entry for a decade was announced yesterday, one that presents a good possibility of a British double last achieved by Hugh Jones and Joyce Smith in 1982. No British man has won in London since Eamonn Martin four years ago but, even without knowing yet who the overseas opposition will be, Evans and Nerurkar will be

for the first time.

among the favourites. Liz McColgan will defend the title she won last April, but will not carry British hopes alone. Marian Sutton will seek to build on her breakthrough last year when, like Evans, she Chicago as a big-city marathon winner. Martin, Peter Whitehead and Gary Staines underoin the British

men's challenge. Evans was third in London last year, his highest finish in four attempts. Ahead of him were Dionicio Ceron, the Mexican who completed a hat-trick of wins, and Vincent Rous-seau, from Belgium. Six months later, though, Evans drew away at 18 miles in Chicago, finishing in 2hr 08min 52sec. He had no race plan, but the way he held form when running solo has worked wonders for his selfbelief. "I am going into London this year with a different attitude," Evans said. "I have never sat down and thought: 'How am I going to

win London?" "I have always been happy to be in the lead pack, just behind people, because I have been too in awe of runners like Ceron and Rousseau. Now my attitude is: Respect them but do not respect them too much'." He wants David Bedford, the elite race director, to bring in a pacemaker suited to his requirements.

"I want a pacemaker there for me," Evans said. "Dave has never asked me before. I have always been content to



hang in there and see what happens. This year I want the race set up so I can run fast. I will be looking to run a personal best and win."

If Evans goes out fast, he and Nerurkar may see little of each other. Nerurkar's cautious policy has helped him to build a sound, if unspectacular, competition record. Fourth in the 1994 European championships, seventh in the 1995 world championships, fifth in the Atlanta Olympics, he has not won a marathon since 1993.

"He will play it safe," Evans said. Perhaps not, this time. Sooner or later Nerurkar must go for a fast time and, in a rare appearance outside the tactical noose of a championship, it could be now. Nerurkar's personal best, 2:10.03, does not reflect his ability and, though his priority will be to win, he could collect a sub-2:09 if he

stays close to Evans. Evans, who would enjoy a payday of more than \$200,000 (about £117,000) if he achieved his targets, will work two days this year: he is to defend his Chicago title rather than go to the world championships in

Such has been the recent

improvement in British wom en's cross country that McColgan is thinking of running the British trial to make the world championship team because, she feels, a squad including herself, Paula Rad-cliffe, Lucy Ellion and Hayley Haining might win the world team title in Turin in March.

McColgan insisted, how ever, that the London Marathon was her priority. She could make as much as Evans. if all goes well. For a former shoemaker (Evans) and jute mill worker (McColgan), athletics has been a smart career move.

### SPORT IN BRIEF

## Higgins makes promising start

ALEX HIGGINS, desperate for an extended run in the Embassy world snooker championship in order to avoid being forced to compete in professional snooker's newlyinstituted qualifying school next season, made a positive start at Blackpool yesterday (Phil Yates writes). Higgins, winner of the game's blue riband event in 1972 and 1982, established a 6-3 lead over Darren Limburg, of London, in their best-of-19 frames. fifth preliminary round match. In terms of break-building, it was a low-quality session.

Higgins, who appeared at Stockport magistrates court on Tuesday, charged with a breach of the peace, managed only one contribution of any significance, 47, in the seventh frame. He was left requiring only four of the remaining ten frames to secure a place in the next round against either Stephen O'Connor or David Craggs tomorrow.

### Wilson takes gold

SWIMMING: Ian Wilson shrugged off a bout of influenza to gain Britain's first victory of the new World Cup season in Peking yesterday. Several members of the England squad competing in the second leg of the World Cup series have been suffering from a virus, but Wilson, 26, still battled his

way to the gold medal in the men's 800 metres freestyle. The City of Leeds swimmer, who won the silver medal in the 400 metres freestyle yesterday, powered home in 7min 55.04sec to win by more than nine seconds from Jure Bucar. of Slovenia. Adam Ruckwood, of the City of Birmingham, another flu victim, was fourth in the men's 200 metres

### Windows secures double

RACKETS: Matthew Windows, the Gloucestershire cricketer, won the singles and doubles titles in the Under-24 Open championship at Queen's Club. Windows overcame the 1992 winner, Harry Foster, in their semi-final before taking four sets to dispose of Alex Smith-Bingham in the final. Windows then teamed up with Smith-Bingham to win the doubles title in an exciting, hard-hitting final over five sets. Richard Carter, winner of the public schools singles in 1993 and 1994. matched Windows's achievement by taking the Under-21 Open championship singles and doubles titles.

### Shinozuka blazes trail

the sixth stage of the Dakar rally, from Gao to Menaka, yesterday, completing the 332-kilometre run in 3hr 14min 35sec in his Mitsubishi to edge out Jean-Pierre Fontenay, of France. Fontenay crossed the line Imin 43sec off the pace. In the motorcycling category, the Frenchman, Stephane Peterhansel, came in ahead of the field on his Yamaha, recording a time of 3hr 29min 53sec, two minutes ahead of his compatriot, Thierry Magnaldi, on a KTM. In the overall car standings, Shinozuka leads Fontenay by 212 minutes.

## Australia in sights

SHOOTING: The Great Britain rifle squad leaves for its latest Australian tour tonight to defend the Australia Trophy, the Commonwealth team rifle championship that Britain has held since 1987. The Australians changed the title from Empire Match to Australia Match to coincide with their bicentenary in 1988, but Britain continued to win - by 43 points at Bisley last year. The event this year is at Pontville range, Tasmania, which has some of the fiercest and most unpredictable winds in the world.

### Baker-Finch unhappy

GOLF: Ian Baker-Finch, the former Open champion, had a miserable return to the sport yesterday when he returned a five-over-par 77 in the first round of the Victorian Open, in Australia, Baker-Finch, who took six months away from tournament golf after a succession of poor results in recent years, was 13 shots behind Stephen Leaney, the leader and defending champion. Leaney fired a course record of eightunder-par 64 to lead by two strokes from Paul Devenport, of

### ESTATE RECORD

BALLROOM DANCING LONDON: The Star Ball: Modern chemploreship: 1, I. Bericchi and I. Bany (Eng); 2, A Sinkinson and A Preston (Eng); 3, F Seim and S Fancasio (II); 4, T Howson and J Bolton (Eng); 5, H and K Ameno (Japan); 6, J Wener and M Colagraco (Des). Leife championship: 1, J Haspalaineo and S Sutter (Fri; 2, P Green and K Palie; Alvai; 3, P Richardson and I. Deiveon (Eng); 4, P Sidel and A Disher (US); 5; V Alievesiay and L Devidova (Russ); 6, I Walte and I Hass (Eng).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 107 Sen Antonie 63; Cleveland 78 Houston 81: Philadelphis 99 Dates 111; Wastrington 115 Phoenix 113; Derwer 99 Seettle 108; Milleause 119 Upp 112; Portland 61 Marrii 85; Golden Sate 95 Vancouver 109; LA Lakes 101 Charlotte 97. BUDWESER LEAGUE: Crystel Palace 75 Shaffeld 81.

BIATHLON ...

RUHPOLDBits, Germany: World Cup: Men (20km): 1, R Gross (Ger) 52min 6.7sec (D pen min): 2, O E Bjorndelen (Nor) 52-48.3 (1): 3, V Mazingurov (Fuss) 53:40.3 (1): 4, S Pscher (Ger) 54:17.6 (1): 6, P Sendel (Ger) 54:28.0 (Fig.) World Cup positions: 1, Facher 1950ts; 2, Mazingurov 173: 3, Bjorndelen 155: 4, P Muslimov (Flust) 156: 5, Gross 126: 6, Kirchner 125.

BOWLS

SYDNEY: Merrylands international missed pairs championship: Semi-finals: M Price and J Bel (Prig) to D Roche and S Lagozza. New South Wates) 18-9; E Semutio-(Queenstand) and M McMathen (New South Wates) bt. M Paddel and S Andason (Queenstand) 15-13, Prigat Price and Bet bs. Souther and McMathen 18-15

CRICKET

Hopg SP, B E Michiamana 4-47), New South Wales 126 (J. Angel 4-20). Melbourne: Teamania 250-5 (D C Boon 7s, S Young 50) y Victoria. TOUR MATCH: Calcustic (one clay): Indian soluct 37: 231-4; Lancashira 235-8 (N H Fairbrotter 62). DARTS

FRIMLEY GREEN Entransy world championable (England Linksa stated). Second nound: R Scholten (Holl) bt R George 3-0. L Walsoe (Scot) bt R Barneveld (Holl) 3-2. FOOTBALL

Wadnesday's hate results
COCA-COLA CUP: Quarter-finals: Botton
Wanderen D Winstedon 2: Middletbrough
2 Liverpool 1.
AUTO WINDOCREENS SHIELD: Southem section: Seenson 1 Wycombe 1 (set;
Swansee win 6-5 on pens).
SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cetic 5 Kilmernock 0. First division: Februit
1 St Marson 1; String Ablort-4 Greenock
Morton 3.
PONTENS LEAGUE: Premier division:
Attributes United 3 Sheffield Wednesday
0. First division: Huddlersfield 2 Blecippool
0. Thirt division: Huddlersfield 2 Blecippool
0. Thirt division: Seatherough 1 Rochale
2.

2.
AVON INSURANCE COMBRATION:
Charton - Busici Rovers 2.
UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE:
John Offers League Cupe Third round
replay: Selsey 2 Anunds 1.
FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Torquay 0.

A YOUTH CUP: Their round, first, leg:
SPANISH CUP: Third round, first, leg:
Cranside 0 Real Base 1: Wilsrad 0 Artistic
Blican 1: Ozasuna 3 Rayo Vallecano 2:
Ovledo 1 Cornocista 0; Zisagoza 1 Racing
Santander 1; Español 4 Sporting Gijon 1;
Sevilla 2 Daponho La Courla 0; Cella Vigo
2 Logrones 0.

MELSOUPME: Victoria Open: Leading first-round scores (Aus unless stated): St. S-Leaney, 68: P. Desembort, (NZ), 87: R. Whitlock, S-Tast-68: B Lamb, G. Ogley, T. Price, 68: J. van de Velde, Frj., L. Wastio, S.

Cottes, G Cotes, R Lee (NZ), M Long (NZ), E Watters. 70: D Geurs, S Alber (NZ), A Getson, D Berries. P Lonerd, P Molonsy. Other scores: 71: G Events (GB), 72: B Justisson (GB), S Cage (GB) 78: M Carver (GB) 77: I Baher-Finch.

DUNDEE: Four-nations men's indoor tournament: Scotland 4 Australia B; South Africa 4 North America 1.

AUALA LUMPUR: Four-nation tournament: Makaysia 9 Belgium 5; South Koree 5 Switzerland 0.

FREESTYLE SKIING MOINT-TREMBLANT. Ouebec: World Cap: Aerials: Merc 1. C Rigaec; (Austra) 238 (19pts: 2, L Langlos; (Cen) 234 82; 3, 5 Foucas; (Fr) 215 7c; 4, J Sweet; (Austra) 214 93; 5, A Capick; (Car) 214 97; 6, A Valenta; (Ca) 208 91. Lauding World Cuppositions: 1, Foucas; 292pts; equal 2, N Fontaine (Car) and E Bergoust (LS) 210; 4, Capick; 226; 5, Langlos; 228; 6, M Ferraro (LIS) 216. Wormer: 1, V Brenner (Can)

FIX URES

FOOTBALL Kick-aft 7 90 unless stated

Nationwide League First division Stoke v Birmingham (7 45) Tranmere v Swindon (7.45) LEAGUSE OF WALLER ther Cable-Tell v Bigon Fetry, Newtourn v Liensandfraid. FAI HARP LAGER CUP: First round: S Petrick's Alin v Athlone (7 45); Shebourne v Everior (Codi) AFC (7.45); Welledad v Monaghan (7.45).

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Buchrolow Langue; New-restle v Manchester (7.30); Landon v 173.22; 2, M. Rohrbach (Switz) 165 52; 2, C. Ofrier (Can) 163.25; 4, J. Cooper (Aus) 160.86; 5, K. Marchall (Aus) 160.07; 6, N. Stone (US) 157.71. Leading World Cup positions: 1, Bromer 300; 2, Cooper 300, 3, Polithach 248, 4, Oliver 344, 5, K. Kuster (Switz) 236, 6, H. S.Lid 224. ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New Jersey 1 Colorado 1 (OT): NY Rengers 3 Tampa Bay 4; Chapgo 4 Edmonton 1, Dallas 6 Detroil 3: Afahem 3 Flonda 2. MOTOR RALLYING

DAKAR-AGADES-DAKAR RALLY: Fifth stage (firstudiu to Gato): Case: 1, J.P. Fontinay (Fr. Mézdassin) Jin (Caron disase; 2, K. Shracoula, (Japen, Mitsubbeh) at (Sant Salay (Fr. Mézdassin) Jin (1998), 5, J. Mesdassin (Fr. Buggy) 15-50, 5, H. Mesdada (Kopen, Mitsubbeh) 16-45 Overnill positions: 1, Saby 29th Silven 12-sec; 2, Shracoula at 96-6; 2, Fontiersay Sc. 4, Schlesser Hamn 21-coc: 5, Mosachta 1,05-04; 6, S Senna (Sp. Nessen) 22-05-4, Mattocyclest: 1, T. Magneth (Fr. KTM) at 10mm 47-as; 3, S Peterhansel (Fr. KTM) at 10mm 47-as; 3 Tomin 4:505; 2: 9 Juliania (1914), 1749 (1914), 1749 (1914), 1756; 6. 1756;

RACKETS.

OUSEN'S CLUB: Under-24 Open champjonship: Singles: Semi-linais: A SmithBrigham bit R Walker 15-9, 15-9, 15-12; M
Windows, bit H Footer 15-7, 17-14, 15-12; Finalt Windows, bit H Footer 15-7, 17-14, 15-12; Finalt Windows and Smith-Bayahum bit G Reas, and B Newman 15-5, 15-7, 15-8, Footer and W Searcey-Cooleson bit R Carter and Walker 15-11, 15-9, 15-6, Finalt Windows and Smith-Bayahum bit Footer and Scorey-Cooleson 16-13, 10-15, 15-12, 15-6, 17-13. Under-27 Open championships: Singless: Semi-finais: E Behm bit C Charlton 15-10, 15-6, 15-8; Carter bit D Chulcischank 18-13,

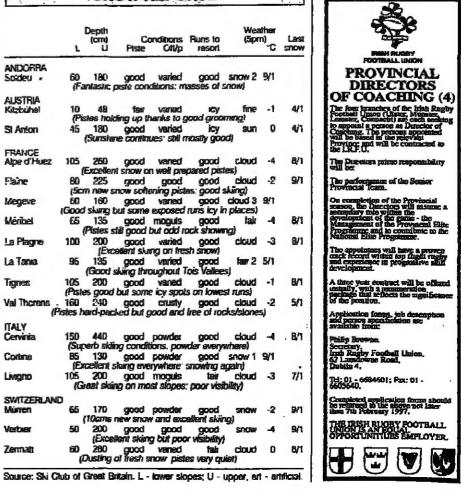
15-1, 15-11. Final: Conter bt Bettin 18-15 15-12, 15-5 8-15, 15-12 Doubles: Semi-finals: Center and Chapterback bt D Techneris-Banget and D Karder 15-2, 15-5 15-6: Behn and Chapterin bt D Staft and I Morris 15-9, 15-0, 15-4 Final: Concer and Chapterin bt Behn and Chapter 15-10 17-14, 11-15, 15-12 TABLE TENNIS

RETTERNIS English Open Men's singles: Round-token qualifying: A Eden Engl bt T Janssens (Be) 27-18, 27-13, 21-9, 5 Mensat (Be) E T Young Engl 21-18, 14-21, 30-22, 21-19, 22-22, 4 Indiak (Austha) bt A Pern Engl 22-32, 11-15, 21-19, D Sales Engl at 0 Omen (Jul 21-18, 12-22, 21-15, 21-12, Y Monmoto (Lep) BJ 1 Facur Engl 22-30, 18-21, 17-21, 17-22, Engl 22-30, 18-21, 17-21, 27-38, Engl at C Robertson (Scott) 21-6, 21-73, 27-72, 11-4-6-6-6-6-f-6-at 2 E-Steptor Engl 27-22, 21-39, 14-21, 27-18, 27-10, Sales Engl at 21-8-at 18-at 19-4-01, 122-30, 21-19, 20-22, 21-15

SYDNEY: International tournament. Ment Quarter-finals: Givernament (Crist & S. 20%)
(Aus) 6-4, 6-2; C. Moya (Sould P. Rather (Aus) 7-6, 6-3; T. Herman (GS) or A. C. Stein (US) 7-6, 6-3; T. Herman (GS) or A. C. Stein (US) 6-4, 6-1, M. Hinge (Stein) 6-2, Woment Quarter-finals: J. Caprell (US) br. A. Fizzer (US) 6-4, 6-1, M. Hinge (Stein) 6-6; br. Y. Bessler (US) br. I. Mayor (Crist 7-5, 6-4, L. Davenpor (US) br. I. Mayor (Crist 7-5, 6-4, L. Davenpor (US) br. I. Mayor (Crist 7-5, 6-4, L. Davenpor (US) br. I. Mayor (Crist 7-5, 6-4, L. Davenpor (US) br. Men's erhibbon tournament. Semi-linek: M. Cheng (US) 6-8.
Becker (Ger) 2-6, 6-4, 7-6, Lossent playofts: M. Stoin (Ger) br. J. Couper (US) 6-4, 6-3; A. Mecheder (Us) br. S. Draper (Auc) 6-4, 6-3
ALICHARD; Men's tournament. Second

64, 6-3
AUCKLAND: Men's tournament: Second round: J Spotman (Swo) to C Roud (Non) 60, 7-5; M Ros (Chie) to J Tarango (US) 62, 6-4; J M Camba (US) 57, 6-2, 7-6, M Choustas (SA) of K Kussa (Sovena) 2-6, 6-2, 6-3
MOBART: Women's tournament: Quarterials: M Words-Wirneyer (US) to Sh-Ting Wang (Tawan) 6-4, 6-2 M Endo Jupan) bit A Elimod (Aus) 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 D tear Ross: (Bel) bit L Cankoza (Ca) 6-0, 1-0 not E Callers (Bel) of A-G Scint (F) 6-3, 2-6, 6-0

### **SNOW REPORTS** 5 × 3 Conditions Runs to Piste Cft/p resort ANDORRA 180 good varied good snow 2 9/1 10 48 fair varied ity fi (Pistes holding up thanks to good grooming) 45 180 good varied icy (Sunshine continues: still mostly good) sun 0 SI Anton 105 250 good vaned good cloud -4 Albe d'Huez (Excellent snow on well prepared pistes) 80 225 good good good cloud 2 (5cm new snow softening pistes: good sking) 60 160 good vaned good cloud 3 9/1 Paine Megeve (Good skung but some exposed runs icy in places) 135 good maguls good (Pistes still good but odd rock showing) Meribel 100 200 good varied good cloud -3 [Excellent shing on tresh show) La Plagne 95 135 good varied good fair 2 5/1 (Good skiing throughout Tois Vallees) La Tania 105 200 good vaned good cloud -1 B/1 (Pistes good but some icy spots on lowest runs) Tignes Val Thorens . 160 240 good crusty good cloud -2 (Pistes hard-packed but good and free of rocks/slones) ITALY Cervinia 150 440 good powder good cloud -4 (Superb siding conditions, powder everywhere) 85 130 good powder good snow 1 9/1 (Excellent slung everywhere: snowing againt) 105 200 good moguls tair cloud -3 (Great skiing on most slopes; poor visibility) Cortina Livigno SWITZERLAND 65 170 good powder good snow -2 9/1 (10cms new snow and excellent skiing) Munen 10cms new snow and social good good (Excellent sking but poor visibility) Verba snow -4 0 280 good vaned tali c (Dusting at fresh snow pistes very quiet) 8/1



Overwhelming evidence to support my theory that Keegan had

## The job that was too cold to handle



Kicking and Screaming

theories, of course. and after considering all the evidence, this is mine. Kevin Keegan was just led up with being cold. Look at any pictures of the poor man and what do you see? Anorak zipped up to his nose. Bobble hat round his ears, pinched nose poking out between. The man was clearly

So, what happened? At new year, he noticed that his toes had started coming off with his socks, indicating that even no longer an activity adequate to maintain circulation. So he made his heroic decision, as others have done before. "I'm just popping out," he said. "I may be some time.

When Newcastle United fans finally learn the true story, they will be very, very sorry, If St James' Park had only offered its hero a little pitch-side gazebo with a brazier, all this sorry flotation mess might have been

Wednesday, to mug griefstricken fans for a story. There were plenty of them to choose from and, by a stroke of good fortune, they all wear black anyway. Few of them were worried (as I was) by the split infinitive in the morning's

Their minds seemed entirely bent on Messianic blasphemy. "He died for us," was the common theme of woe: in The Journal, the Newcastle daily paper, came the headline "He never forgot ordinary people". At this rate, "Eat this and think of me", may well be the next Sugar Puffs campaign, so

I know where I was when my patience snapped about all this. Yes, Keegan holds a unique place in the hearts of a unique city with a unique passion for footy. But a lunatic Geordie promptly had his arm tuttooed with a tombstone and "R. I. P. Kevin Keegan 92-97" on it. and I just thought. choking on my Kevin Keegan Memorial Breakfast, well enough's enough.

For one thing, now that everyone is in this bizarre



mock mourning for the man pathetically at Keegan's fafter all, he is not dead, he is car-parking space that mornonly not in Newcastle). I ing (their dad pledging "to tell them all about him as they got older), were thankfully tucked up at home under cannot make jokes any more about Keegan and Terry McDermon looking like the Scousers in Harry Enfield and black-and-white quilts.

scapegoat impersonation perfectly, with the red-eyed and highly-alarmed look of some-

one who has inadvertently

today, that hairy billy-goat

with the worried expression

wonder football managers

work so hard at maintaining

their haircuts: it is obviously a

statement that they still have

snow fell on Wednesday night.

and the vigil outside St James'

Park had disbanded. The stat-

ue to Jackie Milburn, covered

with its grim tarpaulin, still

towered over the steps, but

little Carl and Jason Hewitt.

the bobble-hatted Toon tod-

dlers, who had posed so

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FIRST TELECOM

Back in Newcastle, a light

control over something.

If Holman Hunt were alive

glanced into the pit of hell.

Darren Peacock had told him. Gosh, how swanky. Perhaps life was worth living, after all. Remembering the Bible story,

sound as offhand as possible, and not too disrespectful of the gloom. "You wouldn't happen to know where he lives? I mean, in the interests of my research, you know, I'm not fixated or anything, it's just that, being a hotshot football

Renault in the drive) and I was so excited I tipped my friend five quid. To be honest, it was the most exciting thing that had happened all day. It is true what they say

about Newcastle. It is a small place and it is football mad. Ask anybody if they have met the players, or seen them in bars, and they are dead proud to say yes. They might be making it up, of course. But nobody could remember seeing Keegan in the town; they just felt his presence. And his influence spread wide, clearly. According to reports, sales of Sugar Puffs went up 20 per

cent during 1996. I could not help noticing that the "ordinary people" story concerned a charity trip to Lapland with local disabled children - a lovely thought, save in one troubling respect.

Lapland. You see! If my Captain Oates hypothesis is correct, this sounds suspiclously like the final straw.

"Kevin, we've arranged a levely holiday for you," they said. "Oh great, where?" "Lapland." Believe me somewhere in

Marbella, a ceremonial bonfire is already burning. And on top of it, a famous black

think it's fantastic what we

have achieved, but others can't

get over the fact that we didn't

me. They write to say I know nothing about football, I am

picking wrong players, I am playing the wrong way. I have bought wrong players. They

say I don't know anything - I

the Newcastle squad in a state

of near stunned silence. At the

training ground yesterday,

they trooped by one by one, all

dejected, and most not wish-

ing to comment on their

the silence when spoke for his team-males. "We are gutted,"

he said. "He was a great

McManaman's second-half

manager's departure.

Keegan's departure has left

They absolutely slaughter

win the league.

ist can't win."

Time for tea, Boston-style?

United States of Anger. Radio 4, 9.45am.

United States of Anger. Radio 4, 9.45am.

In his final report on the health of the US, Gavin Esler gets hotter under the collar than at any time during the past six weeks. You can almost hear him clench his fists. Instead of sitting on the fence, he leans over it and pursues his prey with axe swinging over his head. I realise I have made a macedoine of metaphors, but Esler's scorn has left me somewhat sturned. His principal target this morning is Washington as a seat of government — or rather mis-government. Quoting Thomas Jefferson, he suggests that a little rebellion might be rather a good thing. "Perhaps", he adds subversively and in a Bostonian context; "all America might be refreshed by another rea-party."

The Chocolate Kiddies. Radio 4. 9.30pm.

Why chocolate? Because of their skins. But why kiddies? That Why chocolate? Because of their skins. But why kiddies? That suggests juvenility, something nobody would ever have said about this ensemble of black musicians, singers and dancers who took justice to Europe in the 1920s and, as Tony Staveacre explains it, nudged European popular music in a new direction. Sam Wooding, inexplicably ignored by many jazz historians, was the company boss, Lead trumpeter was "Doc" Cheatham, now 92, and still blowing. In Germany, The Chocolate Kiddies helped pave the way for the Berlin cabarets that Christopher Isherwood memorably wrote about. After they returned to the US in 1931, the Nazis branded all black entertainers degenerate and outlawed them. mers degenerate and outlawed them.

### RADIO 1

dy, includes 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Wowlebgroom; With Toyah Willock and Jethray Holland 7.30 Friday Night In Music Night From the Hippodroma. Goldens Green, London: BBC Concert Orchestra, under Robin Stapleton 8.45 benezies for 1/0/1/8 9.80 Listen to this

### RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breeldest Programme 8.55 The Megazine 12.00 Militiday with Mair 2.05pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwith 7.00 News Eitra 7.35 Patrianson on Spot 8.30 Friday Spot. Presented by Robin Balley. Football. Transiers v. Swindon from the Nettonwide League. Cricket: An update on the England lour party in New Zeeland 10.05 Priper Talk. with Jay Reyner and Britan Alexander 11.00 Night Edize, with Steve McCommack 12.05 After Hours 2.05. Up All Night; with Richard Dallyo.

### TALK BADIO

Falla, err Berrio (Sieta Canciones Populaires Eapanolos): Schubert (Violin Concento No.3 in G minor)

9.00 Morming Collection, with Catrices Young, isolucies Mussorgaley, err Rimsky-Konselcov (Scherzo in B field); Tchelcovsky, compil Bogatyryov (Symphony No.7 in E fast); Mussorgaley, err Rimsky-Konselcov (Scherzo in B field); Tchelcovsky, compil Bogatyryov (Symphony No.7 in E fast); Mussorgaley, err Tchernov (St. John's Night on the Bare Mountain)

10.00 Musical Encountees.

10.00 Musical Encountees.

10.00 Musical Encountees.

10.00 Strate Incometes.

10.00 Strate Incometes.

10.00 Strate Incometes.

10.00 Strate Indoor Research (Concentations); Eric Coatres (Oxford Strate); Bitss (Convensations); Eric Coatres (Oxford Strate); London Again); Bridge (The Hourgless)

12.00 Composer of the Weelc Monteverell

1.00pm Neies; St Devid's Haff of Monteverell

1.00pm Neies; St Devid's Haff of

All times in GMT. News on the hour. 5.30em Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shell 7.30 Share Today 7.15 Off the Shell 7.30 Shared Experiences 8.10 Words of Fath 8.15 Music Raview 8.45 Early Versions 9.05 World Bustness Report 9.15 Focus on Fath 9.45 Sport 10.30 EBC English 10.45 Off the Shell 11.30 Meridian Books 12.05pms Bustness 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Science in Action 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack 3.05 Sport 3.15 Early Versions 3.30 Music Review 4.15 World Today 4.30 EBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Bustness Report 6.45 Sport 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.01 Outlook 7.25 World Eusiness Report 6.45 Sport 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.01 Outlook 7.25 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Publics 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.10 Spotlight 11.15 Inscient's Guide 11.25 Book Choice 11.30 Multitrack 12.30am Seven Dega 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 World of Fath 7.039 1.300 Cutlook 1.55 World of Fath 7.039 1.300 Science in Action 3.15 Sport 3.30

A.00am Mark Critishs 6.00 Make Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susanneh Smore 2.00pm Concarto. Frenz Krommer (Fusie Concarto in G Major, Op 30) 2.00 Jeanne Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sorista Mozart (Flano Sonata No 12 in F major) 7.00 Showcase 8.00 Concart. J Strauss of (The Gypsy Beron. Overture): Sarassate (Ziguenerweisen, Op 20): Ravel (Botero; Talgare) and Khachatonian (Gayaneh, Sulter) 10.00 Nick Belley 1.00am Selly Peterson

### VIRGIN RADIO

given by the Yorkshine-Baroque Soloists in the Sir Beroque Soloists in the Sir Jack Lyone Concert Hell, at the Music Department of the University of York, includes Music (Florilegium Secundum No 1 in D minor); (Charpenter (Pour le Sacre d'un Evesque); Music (Florilegium Secundum No 3 in A minor); (r) D Music Machine, Torrany Peisraon explores the origins of Doo songs

of pop songs
5.15 In Tune, with Andrew Green. Vinctudes Schubert (Lachen and Weiner)
7.30 Czech Philhermonic. The orchestra and the Czach-borr conductor Libor Pesak team

24 . ; . . 42

1 & Sec.

40

up in Birmingham to play three famous works by Dvorak: Othelto, Cello Concerto in B minor and Symphony No 7 in D minor 9.15 Russia Five Years On. Professor Geotirey Hosking talks to Sir Rodric Breathwell former British ambassad Russia, who reflects on politics within the former Soviet Union and the

West (5/5) 9.40 Little Places of Russia. A selection of songs and Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No 5 performed by Yilkin Seow 10.00 Hear and Now, Sarah Welke introduces the first of a new

inforduces the first of a new series of concerts from the institute of Contemporary Arta in London, includes Frank Zeipze (Peaches en Regalia); Stave Reich (Nagoya Marindas) 12.00 Composer of the Week: Bernatish (f) 1.00

## Jones explains how practice makes her perfect. Then she is accompanied by planist Malcolm Martineau in a selection of Negro spirituals by Xavier Montsahratge by Xavier Montselvatge 2.15 Music Restored, George Pratt introduces a concert

## RADIO 4 6.00 Stx O'Clock News 6.30 Going Pieces, with David Stafford. 7.00 Ness 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Pick of the Week, with Civis

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00
News 6.10 Farming Today
8.25 Payer for the Day 6.30
Today 8.43 Skip At That
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island
Discs. John Clease Island
Sue Lawley (r)
9.45 United States of Anger. See
Those 9.00 (etc.

10.00 Let's Make Our Towns Nice. Again (FM) 10.00 An Act of Worship (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Wendy Austin

11.30 The Natural History Programme, with Joanna Pinnock 12.00 News; You and Yours, Clare Catlord presents reports on consumer and social affairs 12.25pm The Food Programme 12.55 Weether

12.55 Weether 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55

Shipping 2.00 Classic Seriel: A The Acres, Jane Smiley's Pulitzer prize-wirning rovel transposes the story of King Lear to contemporary lows. Lear to contemporary lows. Leary Cook's decision to hand over his farm to his three

dver his farm to his three daughters is sudden and uncharacterstic. With Trever Peacock and Kate Harper (r) 3.00 News; The Athernoon Shift 4.00 Kateldoscope. Tim Marlow visats an exhibition of recent work by sculpter Tony Cragg, and reads from the acclaimed fast novel of Carladian writer Thomas Wharton

Thomas Wharton

4.45 Short Story: A Rest
Disaster. Read by Richard 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55

this week's show from Hurst wich as Poraso, Nil", Secre-lary of State for Delence; Ledy Howe, chairperson of the Broadcasting Standards Council; Tessa Jowell, MP, shadow health minister, and Andrew Foster, controller of the Audit Constraint

8.05 Any Questions? Chairman Jonathan Dimbleby present

the Audit Commission
Minety Not Out Almost 60
years ago H.W. "Burny"
Austin became the last British
player to reach the men's
singles semi-linels at
Wintelson, Now in his

Wintbledon, Now in his ninely-first year, he shares some memories with Ned Shenin (i)

9.15 Letter from America, by Astair Cooke

9.30 Keletidoscope Feature. See Choice (i) 9.59 Weether

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustic.

10.45 Book at Beddiner. Scarlet and Steek, by Stendhal. Bead by Greg Wise (10/10)

11.00 Week Ending. The comedy revue team devoir the news from the first week of 1997

from the first week of 1997 11.25 Fourth Column, with John

11.45 Better Left Unseld? Actress to her tormer lover ....

12.00 Norms
12.00 Norms
12.30 The Lete Book: A Spell of Winter, by Helen Dimmore. Read by Janet Maw (3/5)
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8 RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2 RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4 RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5. LIVE. MW 833, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 646; LW 198-112.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN-RADIO FM 105.8; MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089-Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, lan Hughes, Rosenbry Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNemers.

moreover, I felt great consolation come upon me: Kevin would rise again in three days. And suddenly, I don't know why, I cheered up. My taxi and besides, he had left on earth all these lovely As a newcomer to football, I have only just started to appredriver, the fourth of the day. Newcastle disciples (I mean, ciate the role of the manager told me as a fact that Kenny players) still living. Daiglish would be taking over; and as another fact, said "Have you ever met David which is perhaps lost sight of course, the manager's role is to suffer. Alex Ferguson does this

reporter and all that ..." Five minutes later, we drove slowly past the house (which could have been anybody's,



Disbelieving supporters try to come to terms with the abdication of King Kevin

He will also keep in contact

with the board of directors

over the appointment of a

successor to Keegan, even

though the task of finding the

right man has been offered to

Douglas Hall, Yesterday, Sir

John also moved quickly to

quash the inevitable rumours

surrounding Keegan's

## Hall to take back seat at St James'

THE saying that today's newsnaper is tomorrow's chin wrapper must seem especially pertinent to Kevir. Keegar, at the moment. Only 24 hours after he resigned as manager of Newcastle United, events quickly overtook even such a dramatic departure.

The search for a successor occupied most throughts in the North East yesterday. So too, though, did an announcement quish control of the club in the build-up to a public share The Cathorn

Sir John, speaking to the local newspaper, indiaced that he will step down as chairman to allow his son. Doughts, to take charge of day-to-day matters, and assume omittel. The multimillionaire, however, will remain

Answers from page 12

HINNY

PALINOIA

UROPYGIUM

GOSSOON

grandiloquism for the pope's nose.

WORD-WATCHING

(c) The offspring of a she-ass by a stallion. From the Latin hinnus in the same sense, Greek hinnes, ginnos. "He loads a little swift-

(b) The compulsive repetition of an act, over and over again, until it is performed perfectly. The classic form of this condition

is the dogged piano practice of the ten-year-old next door, who is rehear-sing the Bine Danube or the notorious Minute Waltz for

the end-of-term concert. The technical term for this is pianola

palinoia, and the condition imposed upon the auditor is pianola

(a) The fleshy and bony protuberance at the posterior end of a

bird's body — the part of a bird to which its tail feathers (the hardest to pluck) are attached. The word could be used (loosely) as a grandiloquism at the Christmas dinner table for the pope's

nose. More loosely still, it might be used in church as a crypto-

(a) A lad. The affected English pronunciation of the French

gurçon. The word gives a sense of silliness, because of the subconscious association with other words ending with -oon,

such as goon and loon. It is therefore suitable for use by an adult

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

nasty enough to wish to address a young male person particularly a waiter — in a patronising way.

I Rul7! Rul7 2 Nf6-1 gdf-3 Qg4+ Bg7 4 Buf6 and wins

figurehead.

departure. Speaking for the first time about the loss of his manager. Hall denied that there was any friction. "I had a tremendous rapport with Keegan." he said. We got on tremendously well. and there is no question of us

"I am proud to have been part of the Kevin Keegan era at St James Park, and proud to have been part of what he achieved. The important thing now, is that the dream lives

on. He has taken the club from obscurity and put it on a sound footing, now we must build on that."

Sir John indicated that the roots of Keegan's departure lie in the manager's own passionate desire for success. Inevitably, that led to an intense pressure which finally Keegan could endure no longer. Such sentiments were ech-

oed in an interview Keegan gave just before his decision to turn his back on Newcastle. Some people think I have the best job in the world, but others wouldn't touch it with a bargepole," he said. "There are days when I think it is the best job around, but days when I think not. The mood swings are unbelievable. "Everyone has a boiling

point. There are highs and manager and his departure will be a terrific blow." lows, the responsibility, the glory - and the stick, they are

matters worse for Newcastle

## Liverpool beaten as Robson twists knife

United supporters on Wednesday night as Bryan Robson's team moved to within 270 minutes of bringing a rare their Coca-Cola Cup win over Liverpool, the favourites and FA Carling Premiership leaders, 2-1 at the Riverside Stadium. The semi-final draw nitted them against either Stockport County or Southampton over two legs.

This was a massive game for us to keep our season going and instil some confidence in the boys at the club," Robson said, after goals from Craig Hignett and Steve Vickers proved too much for Liver-

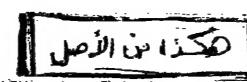
### BY OUR SPORTS STAFF MIDDLESBROUGH made despite Steve

piece of silverware back to the North East. They followed up their rivals by knocking out

consolation. My players worked very hard to get their just reward." A virtuoso performance from Oyvind Leonhardsen helped Wimbledon to book their semi-final place. The Norwegian's display was the catalyst for a 2-0 win over Bolton Wanderers at Burnden Park. Wimbledon will play Leicester City or Ipswich Town. Leonhardsen provided the killer blow to Bolton's prospects after 22 minutes with a sweetly-struck, curling

shot Efan Ekoku had scored an early goal for Wimbledon.
COCA-COLA CIP. Sent-Insk: Socioot
Courty or Southernotor o Medicestrough:
Issuen I loan or Locasta City windleder. First legs to be played on February 19
mrd 19: second legs to be played on March
11 and 12.

## حكذا من الدصل



# Sight for A break for Johnathan, consumed with zeal with Ohe T Te isn't a bloode, he won't makes his job so worthwhile. The Henley, who claims to have several bundred be'd like to sell and a REVIEW Ste Tim Beil. The riveting story of story of ste Tim Beil. The riveting story of ste Tim Beil. The riveting story of sterest story. Johnson casually more distressing. Those whom the

wear short skirts and he desprit answer to the name of Juliet, Kirsty or Alice, Life at the BBC cannot be easy for at the BBC cannot be easy for.
Johnsthen Martland.

Help, however, was at land.

Anne Robinson, to whom many a young journalist owes a career.

was off doing something else for a couple of weeks and generously tossed the office keys to the only authentically crumpled member of the Watchdog team. There you the Watchdog team.

are, Johnathan, you have a go.

So Maitland, a man normally only happy with a telephone and car and his

So Maitland, a man normally only happy with a reicphone nucked under each ear and his head up a Zamussi, riid. Welcome to our first ever look at the world of entertainment, he said, doming a positively raffish black velver tacket and casually unbottoned red shirt for Watchdog Entertainment Special (BBCI).

It began well enough, with one

of those Watchdog moments that an interesting call from George of

makes his job so worthwhile. The newly knighted Paul McCartney (hurray) was preventing the widow of a former Beatles roadie from selling hand-written lyrics, worth up to £60,000 if McCartney (boot) stopped disputing ownership and let them go to auction. He would not but shortly before Christmas. Maithand told us breathlessly, a McCartney side arrived at Lily. Evens's modest from door and

suggested a private arrange-ment, provided there was no fuss.

Why had he changed his mind? One-word apparently: Watchdog.

Goodness, you mean Macra wastles it as well? After last night's fuss, the private arrangement is presumably off and no doubt a special Watchdog helpline is to be set up for anybody else suffering from troublesome Boarles lyrics. "Any progress there yet. Johnsthan?" Robinson will ask, with 30 seconds to go. "Well,

in New York, who not only says half the songs are hers but is also having trouble with her new Zanussi washer-dryer ... "

that, however, was not all we had time for last night. There was something on the old perennial of theatre booking fees and an item about celebrity interviews that, for all Maitland's ingenuity, didn't work because Madorma (yes, she watches it too) behaved impeccably. Not only did she spot the questions he'd written on his hand ( how sweet - i do that too") she politely dismissed his preposterous inquiry about how she was coping with "getting more mature". "It's OK, you can say old". To his credit, Maitland

We left him on stage at The Half Moon, Putney, pretending to be



watches it too.

the Move, purportedly investigating whether nicker buyers have legal redress against old 1960s bands that have no original members in them. As Maitland said: This is a consumer programme, after all." Next week, Roy Wood sues. Watchdog! Assuming he

Bond

Unexpectedly, the most fascinating television of the evening came by way of a 20-minute advertisehow Bell and the Communication Workers Union came together to scupper Michael Heseltine's plans to privarise the Post Office told us more about how political lobbying actually works than any of the other talking heads in Michael Cockerell's splendidly absorbing A Word in the Right Ear (BBC2).

Telling the story of how Heseltine was effectively mugged by the Tory party's own grass roots was Alan Johnson, the telegenic general secretary of the CWU, Daniel Harris, the youthful organiser of the union's astonishingly sophisticated campaign and Bell the last. No, he'd never used the phrase set a thief to catch a thief when pitching for the business: Set a Tory to catch a Tory.

The lobbying campaign was far too clever and elaborate to go into

added subtext. Johnson casually adding that Bell (who reduced his fees for the union) was very much a Thatcherite and, therefore, possibly had a vested interest in humbling Heseltine and Cockerell. chipping in with a timely reminder that if this is what a modern, lobby-wise union could achieve with the Conservatives in office, just think what they might be capable of under Labour.

n older story was retold in A Disaster (BBC2), a programme with the most unpromising of titles but, as it turned out, the most gripping and well told content. This was the story of what happened on July 6, 1988, the night most of us recall as the night the Piper Alpha oilrig exploded.

It was far more complicated than that and as narrator John Nettles calmly unravelled the story

more distressing. Those whom the programme implicitly criticised (but never named) will feel that the oversimplification process went too far. The rest of us will just be grateful for the greater understanding that it delivered, particularly the tragic role played by nearby rigs which, by failing to stop pumping their own oil and gas production, effectively turned Piper Alpha into a giant Bunsen burner. This was restrained, responsible, first-class television.

But no night in 1997 is complete without at least one documentary about the Skeleton Coast of Namibia. Last night's Survival (ITV) was the fourth in ten days and there are more to come. Des and Jen Bartlett's contribution was some lovely pictures of Namib Desert elephants sliding down sand dunes. I added it to my fastgrowing collection.

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (1985) 7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (27233) UCTUTE AL AL SUER THE SHOP (BED) (13885) 9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXCIBA 4041229

10.30 CANT COOK, WON'T COOK (53213) 10.30 CANT COOK, WON J. 11.00 NEWS (I) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (6431107)

(8730364) 11.45 SMRLUE'S PEOPLE with Roy Hust (6381774) 12.00 NEWS (1) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (7029128) weather (7029120)
12.0Spm INCOGNITO Pater Smitt books the outz final (8250010)

12.30 CALL MY BLUFF (4992585) I CSale Sursa 12.55 THE WEATHER SHOW (277710) 12.55 THE WEATHER SHOW (27571132)

1.40 NEIGHBOURS (T) (74980923) 2.05 FILM: Columbio New You See His (1975) Starting Peter Falk A stage flusionist resorts to murder when a 125 business associate tries to biscirmal him (1) (3234687) 1. 公司(1) 医基

(I) (323488/)
3.30 PLAYDAYS (3698584) 3.50 The Friday
Zone (1435774) 4.55 Newstourid Edita
The Page (I) (1) (7281229) 5.10 Blue Peter (1) 5.25 NEIGHBOURS (1) (1) (985869)

8.00 NEWS (1) and weather (519)
8.30 REGIONAL NEWS (571)
7.00 BM BREAK Shotter (Sayers Peter Ebdon, Cary Wilkinson and Mark King cus up to help contestants win big prizes

(1) (4958) 7.30 TOP OF THE POPS (1) (856) 8.00 DAD'S ARMY Classic cornedy. Corporal Jores and Palents Coding and Freser are in danger of being thrown out of the Home Guerd because of their

considerable age (f) (T) (7478) 8.30 NOEL'S TELLY YEARS New series of the nostagis show in which Nost Edmonds tooks back tondly at the TV, lade and tastitions of a chosen year with guests who were very much in the public eye at the time (T) (9213)

n highergen 9.00 NEWS (7) and weather (5045)
9.30 HETTY WAINTHROPP INVESTIGATES The detective goes undercover in a bettered women's refuge to find out which of the residents has betrayed the strict secrecy surrounding the place's whereabouts. Starting Patricia Routledge

whereabouts, Starting Patricia Routledge (1) (914381)

10.25 FILM: Escape from Alcatrez (1979) starting Clint Eastwood and Patrick McGoothan, Drame based on the true story of a convict's dering attempt to break out of the notorlous high-security prison on Alcatrez Island. Directed by Don Siegel (971652) ells Seption

12.10am Fil.M: The Day of the Triffids (1982)
Howard Keel stera in this adaptation of John Wynchem's novel as one of a small . .... b#5" group still able to see after the world's population is blinded and taken over by · . > 7 4 4 " semi-intelligent plants. Directed by Steve Sekely (724324)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

WideoPita+ and the Video PitasCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
Sting are Video PitasCode\* numbers, which
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1.45 WEATHER (2526904)

1 boosts BM

7.15am SEE HEAR BREAKFAST NEWS (8235788) 7.30 Helpi It's the Hair Bear Bunch (2847045) 7.55 The Really Wild Show (2561300) 8.20 Just So Stories (\$100942) 8.35 Lassie (3618855)

9.00 DAYTIME ON TWO: THE FRENCH EXPERIENCE (4058519) 9.15 The Statistics Collection (912107) 9.45 Watch (8440652) 10.00 Playdays (69403) 10.30 Hotch -Potch House (5754652) 10.50 Holch - Potch: House (\$754652) 10.50 Focus (4469855) 11.00 Look and Read (\$289316) 11.20 Short Circuit (\$493300) 11.40 English Time. Throusways (\$208497) 12.00 English File: Death of a Selearnan (42107) 12.30pm Working Lunch (79749) 1.00 Scene (77792) 1.30 Le Club (44080720) 1.45 Words and Pictures (44181403) 2.00 Just So Stones (86526942)

2.10 SPORT ON FRIDAY includes highlights of Tan Herman's semi-land in Sydney. The commentator is Bany Davies (332942) 3.50 Navis (1541584) 4.00 DARTS: WORLD . CHAMPIONSHIP

6.00 UFO Sci-8 drama (982774) 6.45 ELECTRIC CIRCUS Showbig news magazine (578519)
7:00 TRAEWATCH: The Resi Respetts A film

biography that sets out to prove that Resputin was neither a monk nor mad (r) 7.50 A WEEK TO REMEMBER (DW)



Climber Cameron McNeish (8.00pm)

WILDERNESS WALKS Rock-climber Cameron McNeish embarks on a series of long-distance walks to celebrate our wildest places. In the first programme, he is leined by Olympic gold medallist Chris Breaher to traverse the high summits and passes of the Calmgorm mountain range (1) (8720)

8.30 GARDENING FROM SCRATCH Three back gardens are transformed under the watchful eye of gardening expert Helen Yersm (r) (T) (7855)

9.00 FILM: Wayne's World (1992) Teenage comedy stening Milke Myers and Dana Carvey. Directed by Penelope Spheers (1) (4316)

10.28 VIDEO NATION SHORTS (106497) 10.30 NEWSNIGHT with Kirsty Wark (T) (492519)

11.15 SPACE ABOVE AND BEYOND New sci-fl adventure series, beginning with a feature-length pilot. A future society is forced to take arms after discovering an evil elien race is heading towards Earth, sperking the threat of an intergalactic war (522552)

12.45mm DARTS: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP Dougle Donneily introduces action from the last two quarter-linets at the Lakeside Country Club in Frimley Green (6754140) 1.50 WEATHER (2521459)

CHOICE Wilderness Walks

BBC2, \$.00pm Cameron McNeish (no prizes for guessing where he comes from) puts on his walking boots, gets himself a celebrity companion and tackles six tough terrains in Scotland, Ireland and Baffin Island. The series opens at a racecourse but only to introduce the first at a racecourse but only to improduce the unst of McNeish's co-walkers, Chris Brasher, who has a horse running. As the pair set off for a 20-mile trek through the Cairngorms, which takes in the summit of Britain's second highest mountain. Brasher proves excellent value. The former Olympic gold medallist and organiser of the London Marathon obviously feels that at 76 he is too

relation obviously tees that at 70 he is too old to be politically correct. Otherwise he would not liken mountains to a part of the female anatomy. He also has forthright views on land ownership in Scotland, which he declares to be a disgrace. Betjeman Revisited

Channel 4, 8.00pm Nigel Hawthorne introduces a second selection of films made by John Betjeman in selection of films made by John Betjeman in the early 1960s and only recently rediscovered. Although these short essays on West Country towns predate Betjeman's more substantial television work, such as the delightful Metroland, they contain the essence of his approach. There is the relish for old buildings, the feeling for English landscape and the amused but never malicious observation of everyday lives. Only two of the five films in the series have survived intact. On the others Betjeman's programmentary, has been reconstructed from survived intact. On the others Beljeman's commentary has been reconstructed from his scripts and is spoken by Hawthome in an acceptable approximation of the distinctive voice. We start in Devizes in Wiltshire and discover how much fand, thankfully, how intely it has changed since Beljeman walked its streets 35 years ago.

Dressing For Breakfast Channel 4, 9.00pm

its streets 35 years ago.

Beatie Edney returns as Louise, approaching 30, still single and seemingly fated to stay that way. Not that she would not like to meet Mr. Right, it is just that he is either invisible slim excuse for a sitcom were it not for Stephanie Calman's perceptive scripts, perfectly delivered by the well-cast ensemble. Louise's situation is contrasted with those of her best friend (Holly Aird), who has a live-in man (Nigel Lindsay), but a singularly drippy one, and mother Liz (Charlotte Cornwell). As the new series opens Mum has just lost her second husband (Louise's step-father), the cue for some blackish humour about funerals and grief. Liz's bereavement means that Dressing For Breakfast now has two unattached women, a fact that Calman will strely not be slow to exploit. slim excuse for a sitcom were it not fo surely not be slow to exploit.

Spin City Channel 4, 9.30pm

Channel 4, 9.30pm

The tiny, boyish Michael J. Fox as deputy mayor of New York City is improbable casting even for a sitcom, though his role has less to do with governing than rescuing his dim and amiable boss from gaffes and mishaps. Fox's Michael Flaherty is a spin doctor and a busy one as, first, the city is crippled by a garbage strike and, secondly, the mayor unwittingly insults the gay community. Part of the joke is that while Michael is the king of the sound-bite at work, he stumbles to find the right words to appease his girlfired (Carla Gugino) who wants to put their relationship on a more permanent footing. As with many American permanent footing. As with many American connedies, Spin City is stronger on slick one-liners than depth of character but it is a funny and likeable show which moves at a brisk pace.

Peter Waymark

6.00mm GMTV (1964223) 9.25 WIN. LOSE OR DRAW (83) 6354)

9.55 REGIONAL NEWS (\$239519) 10.00 THE TIME. THE PLACE -53223: 10.30 THIS MORNING '\$3442403) 12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (7:06229) 12.30 NEWS (4084861) 12.56 WISH YOU WERE HERE? In IT

(4996652) 1.25 HOTE 310 AARY (II IT) (71903792) 1.55 Murder, she Wit (8421316) 2.50 Get A Lifet (9456010) 3.20 NEWS (65354CS;

3,25 REGIONAL NEWS (EESE774) 3.30 ROSIE AND JIM ::548505: 3.40 Datty Duck (2194945) 2.55 2zzad New series (5075627) 4.15 Limany New series (1775029) 4.40 Gradulors Trainto Win 19E26328

5.10 A COUNTRY PRACTICE 9:51294) 5.40 NEWS (T) and weather (297045) 6.00 HOME AND AWAY 7: (T) (751382) 6.25 HTV NEWS (T) (333033)

7.00 WHEEL OF FORTUNE (T) (6126) 7.30 CORONATION STREET Stephen Reid springs a surprise on business partner Mike Baldwin, and Vera pays an unexpected visit to Trice and Jamie (T)

8.00 THE BILL A loan shark discovers his business records have been stolen and reckons his chum DS Beech is the man to

8.30 EYE SPY Selma Scott pre real-life comes including a bank robber rumbled when he tried to buy a new coat and how the RSPCA uses video foolage to investigate animal cruelty (T) (4381)



Steamah York stars as Liz (9.00cm)

9.00 THE RUTH RENDELL MYSTERIES: A Dark Blue Perfume A man returns to his home town after living abroad for almost 30 years, intending to stan afresh However, his hopes of happiness are dashed when a transpires the memory of a tailed love affer still haunts him — and his desperate efforts to exorcise its ghost lead to tragedy. Starting Susannah York, John Castle, Rowena Cooper and David Rvall (T) (4855)

10.00 NEWS (T) and weather (36590) 10.29 REGIONAL WEATHER (193923)

10.30 Fil.M: Defending Your Life (1991) staming Albert Brooks, Meryl Streep and Rip Torn. A yuppie is killed in a car crash and whisked off to a heavenly place where he must defend his record of life on Earth in front of a fribunal little realising another new arrival will steal his heart away. (30290671)

12.45 FUNKY BUNKER (r) (453237) 1.45 Club Nation (442121) 2.45 Collins and Meconie's Move Club (r) (79817) 3.15 Customs Classified (6528324) 4.05 Dear Nick (r) (1362091) 5.00 Coronation Street (n) (f) (87879) 5.30 News

74. SEL. 13.

As HTV West except: 12.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (4996652) 1.50 MURDER, SHE WROTE (8340497) 2.50-3.20 OUR HOUSE (94560) D: 5 10-5-40 SHORTLAND STREET :8151294)

6 25-7:00 CENTRAL NEWS (333039) 10,46 CENTRAL WEEKEND LIVE (17906010) 12,15am WEEKLY WORLD NEWS (50782) 1.45 BAYWATCH (4487362)

2.35 CYBER CAFE (1940436) 3.05 MOVIE CLUB (32885185) 3,35 GOD'S GIFT (6175362) 4.30 CENTRAL JOBFINDER '97 (1676188)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except 12.55-1.25 EMMERDALE (4996652) 1,50 HIGH ROAD (74995855) 5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (8151294) 6,00-7.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (74294)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except

12.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (4996652) 1.50 JUSTICE OF THE LAND (74995855) 2.20 MURDER, SHE WROTE (9403300) 5,10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (8151294) 6.00-7.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (74294)

ANGLIA As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 CROSSWITS (4996652) 1.50 MURDER, SHE WROTE (8340497)

2.50-3.20 TIMPSON'S CHURCHES (9456010) COUNTRY 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (8151294) 5.25-7.00 ANGLIA NEWS (333039)

S4C Starte: 6.00am SESAME STREET (14215) 7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (90861)

9.00 HANGIN' WITH MR COOPER (57039) 9.30 YSGOLION (807229) 12.00 THE LIVING SEA (33403)

12.30pm HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER 1.00 SLOT MEITHRIN (97720) 1.30 Film: SILK STOCKINGS (21482565)

3.40 THE DECISION (3078774) 4.00 SICK WOMEN, SMART DOCTORS

4.30 CLASSIC TRAINS (836) 5.00 5 PUMP (4872) S 30 COUNTDOWN (316)

6.00 NEWYDDION (682671) 6.05 HENO (951120) 6.35 GAIR AM AUR (951213) 7.00 POBOL Y CWM (269519) 7.25 Y SIOE GELF (527316)

8.00 CEFN GWLAD: TREBOR EDWARDS 8.30 NEWYDDION (2923) 9.00 PAWB A'I FARN (277836)

9.45 POBL Y PWLL (607381) 10,00 BROOKS(DE (34132) 10.30 CAPTAIN BUTLER (668010) 11.05 THE GIRLIE SHOW (230861) 11,35 TFI FRIDAY (904294) 12.40am DANI DARES (7931053)

1.10 Film: MUSCLE BEACH PARTY (289508) 3.00 Film: HOUND-DOG MAN (807035)

6.00em SESAME STREET (14215) 7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (90661) 9.00 HANGIN' WITH MR COOPER IT

9.30 SCHOOLS (T) (807229) 2.00 LIVING SEA (T) (32403) 12.30pm HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER III

1.00 CRAWSHAW PAINTS CONSTABLE

1.25 THE NEEDY AND THE GREEDY (80372294) 1.50 FILM: The Love Lottery (1953) Ealing comedy staming David Niven, Peggy

Cummins and Anne Vernon Directed by Charles Crichton (82876403) 3,25 A CHILD'S GRIEF (r) (4325720) 4.00 FRANCES BISSELL'S WEST

COUNTRY KITCHEN (5/6) (652) 4.30 COUNTDOWN (T) (836) 5.00 ROCKET MEN (t) (3039) 6.00 TFI FRIDAY The guests include Jimmy Nail and Beverley Callard (72836)

7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (T) (545107) 7.55 SAVE A LIFE (863039)

8.00 CHOICE BETJEMAN REVISITED
Nigel Hawthorne introduces
the first of tive restored films (T) (6316; 8.30 BROOKSIDE (T) (2923)

9.00 CROCE DRESSING FOR BREAKFAST New seven-part senes charling the romantic trials of Louise. At her steptather's tuneral Louise meets a tall, handsome stranger. With Beatle Edney and Holly Aird (T) (5855)



Michael J. Fox in *Spin City* (9.30pm)

9.30 GROCE SPIN CITY New American comedy starting Michael J Fox as the Deputy Mayor of New York City

10.00 ROSEANNE: Call Waiting In the first of a new senes, Roseanne is refusing to tall-to Dan after they have a huge row Featuring a cameo appearance by Ed Asner (T) (34132)

10.30 CAPTAIN BUTLER Romance comes into the life of Butler in the form of a mermaid (T) (2/6) (668010)

11.05 THE GIRLIE SHOW (1/12) (230861) 11.35 TFR FRIDAY (r) (904294) 12.40em DANI DARES Dani Behr spends a

week with a Los Angeles bounty hunter (1) (7931053) 1.10 PILM: Muscle Beach Party (1964) Muscal stairing Frankle Avalon and Annette Funicello and Peter Lorre Directed by William Asher (269508)

3.00 FILM: Hound-Dog Man (1959) Musical starring Fabian and Stuart Whitman and directed by Don Siegel (807035)

4.35-6.10 Fil.M: Don't Knock the Rock (1956 blw) Musical featuring Bit Haley and the Comets and Little Richard Directed by Fred F. Sears (71031275)

7.00per Severly Fills 90210.(2304515) 8.00 Metross Place (2217039) 9.00 Pacific Drive (333403) 10.00 Tales from the Crypt (6224023) 10.90 Tales from the Crypt (82833571) 11.00 Late Show (7304128) 12.00 Hz Mix Long Play (8311343) SKY NEWS SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on

8.00am Demetrine said the Gladistants (1954) (2032) 8.00 Filipper (1963) 1.00 Roller Boogle (1979) 7 (2039) 12.00 Surest Tellier (1990) (2097) 12.00 Surest Tellier (1990) (2039) 2.00pm is a Sastier (1979) (3052) 4.00 The Stanteboard Rid (1993) (4687) 6.00 Rudy (1993) (43316) 8.00 The Chase (1994) (48961) 18.00, Just Cares (1995) (351128) 11.45 Blue Crips (1985) (305138) 3.05 Temporal and Decahed (1994) (209332) 4.35 The Stateboard Rid (1983) (17671275)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

SKY MOVIES GOLD

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.80mm Mouss Tracks (3684010) 6.25
Cunct Attact (3758046) 6.80 Benters (8730212) 7.16 The Late Normald (3668403) 7.40 Adddin (485519) 8.05
Mighty Ducks (3682594) 8.30 Traco and Puntons (5158682) 8.40 The Care Beers (2596720) 8.10 Grounding Mush (3884328) 9.40 Big Gerage (3599045) 9.55
Lamb Chop's Play Along (6627836) 10.25
Mupper Rables (4444318) 10.55 Adventures in Wooderland (5088107) 11.25
Mouse-Tracks (5200132) 11.85 Under the Umbrella Ties (4711584) 12.25pm Fraggia Rock (4733126) 12.25 Web Osmey Presents (3258329) 1.45 Machine (38530590) 2.35 Bonkers (7564739) 3.00
Cunch Attack (7204836) 3.25 Tamon end Pumbas (9568585) 3.35 Good Troop (4811942) 4.00 Timon and Rumbas (233126) 4.10 Good Troop (1068836) 4.35 Bonkers (2393126) 5.00 Vanderin (2548478) 5.25 Timon and Pumbas (9568585) 5.35 Bonkers (2393126) 5.00 Vanderin (3548478) 5.25 Timon end Pumbas (2393126) 5.00 Vanderin (3548478) 5.35 Timon end Pumbas (2393126) 5.30 Vanderin (3548478) 5.35 Timon end Pumbas (3558478) 5.35 Timo

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00cm Sports Centre (76697) 7.80 World Wrestling Federation: Superstors, (\$1768) 8.30 Racing Means (92748) 8.00 Sports Centre (9229) 9.30 Aerobus Oz Style (25519) 19.00 February Toler Lines (90478) 11.00 Herbusters (93942) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (95856) 12.200cm (so. Hockey (47841) 3.00 Trans World Sport (58774) 4.00 Sports Unferfiled [54381) 4.50 Sports

(8746) 8.00 Three Little Ninjan (1890) (64045) 7.30 UK Top 10 (4039) 8.00 Jeck and Smah (1998) (4603) 8.00 Jeck and Smah (1998) (4603) 10.00 Addiction to Love (1998) (99300) 11.35 Desperate Remodition (1893) (742467) 11.100 May World Spot (91323) 8.00 Fishing: Marin World Cup (84687) 10.00 Sports Centre (80040) (1.00 May 10.00 Sports Centre (80040) 11.00 Hold free Bask Page (81107) 12.00-1.00 World Weeding Federation: Raw (821211 1.00 Fishing Marin World Life (80040) 10.00 Sports Centre (8007) 10.00 Sp SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 3

EUROSPORT

7.30ms Ruly Ruld (75590) 8.00 Su-Jumping (48391) 8.00 Footbell (29039) 10.30 Ruly Rad (80391) 11.00 Live Alpho Saing (88010) 12.00 Motorsports Report (20010) 1.00pm Adventure (1956) 2.00 Termis (23895) 6.00 Alpine Sking (1045) 8.00 Speed — Live Stating (83377) 7.30 Footbel — Live (53720) 9.30 Rally Rud (38038) 10.00 Storigmen (51590) 11.00 Snovboarding-(67478) 11.30 Car on Ice (45861) 12.00-12.30 Rally Rud (48343)

GRANADA PLUS

GRANADA PLUS

6.00mm The Krypton Factor (6695132) 6.30
Tiche on the Turn (3460652) 6.45 The Mago Salt (26898318) 7.00 Alzons (5301652) 7.19 Tokto on the Turn (6305039) 7.30 Calweste (1258364) 8.00 Classic Coronation Sheet (1469125) 8.30 Families (146967) 9.00 Dempsey and Matespeace (6598652) 10.00 Salt Ends (268768) 10.00 The Cuckon Waltz (1514881) 11.00 Sheety Tiger (958512) 12.00 pm Families (9486584) 1.00 Albon Market (5663120) 1.50 Windt in Action (9457855) 2.00 At for Love (4258497) 3.00 Bouquet of Bashed Wire (9630300) 4.00 The Doctor Series (2046765) 4.30 Salt Erub (2036582) 8.00 Demplay and Makespeace (3841565) 8.00 Classic Companion Street (2129045) 6.30 Families



(2047497) 7,00 The Doctor Series (3842294) 7,30 The Cuckeo Waltz (206331) 8,00 Bouquet of Barbed Wise (675639) 8,00 Casal: Corporation Steet (4863749) 9,36 The Good Life Guida (2877738) 10,00-11,00 Dempsey and Melepeace (6834590) From 11.00pm-2.00ms Men and Motors GRANADA GOOD LIFE

Includes consumer news and leatures
From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine. Includes recopes and stees from Data Sman
From 12.00-2.00pen Hoalth and Beauty.
Includes Natural Health
From 3.00-6.00 Home and Carthen.
Includes The Good Life Style Guide THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Biography Christopher Columbus (5661010) 5.00 Ampent Mysterea (1443656) 6.00 Westports at Wer (1571403) 7.00-8.00 Biography Jesse Jackson 004-510

TLC/DISCOVERY From 6,00am-6.50 TV High Street.

and from Berg-Home every day on cable 1.60mm The Twinght Zone (6226614) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (3413(53) 2.00 New Alfred Highcack (37/25/66) 2.30 Rod Sering's Night Gallery (37/31701) 3.66-4.60 Finday the 13th (7/254623)

9.00em The Joy of Parting (1997/861) 9.30 Gardener; Deny (2017/89) 10.00 Go Fishing (1984/09) 10.00 Go Fishing (1984/09) 10.30 Our House (3003045) 11.00 The Painted House (4981/28) 11.30 The Old House (2017/85) 12.00 Stones Things (2027/497) 12.30pm Garbern Kerr (2417/855) 1.00 Today's Gournet (8397/47) 1.30 Home Again (2657/346) 2.00 Homebree (8114/92), 2.30 Fundame on the Merid (412/926) 2.00 Two's County (820/955) 3.30-4.00 The Old House (9179/331) DISCOVERY tables over at 4.00pm. 4.00pm Res. Hurtis Fishing Ameritanes (5478/328) 4.30 Corporate Hurners (5478/328) 4.30 Corporate Hurners (3573792) 5.00 Corporates 2 by James Butte (8201403) 8.30 Bayond 2000

NICKELODEON

الرواعي الأفار ويستسك فالمستعدد والمستعدد المستعددات

8353590, 11.00 The Parache Story 8317855; 12.00 Wings of the Lutwotte (2450256) 1.00em Driving Passions (2164256) 1.30-2.00 High Fire (2509966) UK GOLD

UK GOLD

7.00mm Gong for Gold (7824300) 7.35 Neighbours (8279749) 8.00 Crossmass (7977256) 8.25 Eastforders (7470362) 9.00 The Bd (3916518) 8.30 Colars (573000) 10.30 The Sufricas (3905403) 11.00 Lifeti Brave (8398720) 12.00 Crossmoots (3923255) 8.250pm Neighbours (826133) 1.00 Eastforders (6771229) 1.35 The Two Romes (6684749) 2.35 Aher the Show (8398236) 2.80 (Alb And (8155923) 3.30 The Bd (3874949) 4.00 All Crestants Great and Small (4974838) 5.00 Eastforders (2290839 5.35 Crossmoots (3390039) 6.00 You Rang Millard\* (6594126) 7.05 Every Second Courts (1734671) 7.45 The Bdd of Top of the Polys (7145887) 8.25 Ever Decreasing Crotes (9172229) 9.00 The Bd (649229) 9.35 FILM: Carry on Girls (721503) 11.15 The Jac Aher the Show (1181229) 11.50 FILM: Doctor at Large (705652) 11.50 mm Bpmg Yams (5370955) 2.18 Shopping at Night TCC

6.00mm Sesn's Crossing (5862958) 6.45 Pugwali (654671, 7.15 Saved by the Bell (6516841 7.45 Califorma Decems (65085) 8.15 Savest Valley High (813497) 8.46 An Attech (1876622) 9.00 Tiny TCC (4349251) 9.20 Brum (5995295) 9.40 Johnson and Phends (9883774) 9.50 Toxace (9889958) 9.80 0 Bellon and Recent Condidents Bay Prents (9883774) 9.50 Toracer (9889858) 10.00 Rober and Rose of Cocklested Bay (4203213) 10.15 King Rollo (1885039) 10.20 Probert the Frog (1855652) 10.25 Christopher Crocodie (4252720) 10.40 Charlie Chek (3473478) 11.00 Dinobabes (99045) 11.20 Jim Henson's Animal Show (90774) 12.00 Barrey (38519) 12.30pm Where's Wally? (58881) 1.00 Casper and Frends (46346) 1.30 Tiny and Charling (463671) 4.30 Children (4783316) 3.00 Pagessi (5219) 3.30 Sened by the Bel (6671) 4.00 Children Dicarre (2476) 4.30-8.00 Swort Valley High (7590) and Charling (461671) 4.00 Children (4790)

6,00cm Teerage Musers Hero Turdes (23872) 6,30 Biter Mico from Mars (5671) 7,00 Ceptern Simon and the Space Monkeys (78229) 7,30 Tales from the

Crypheeper (82830) 8.80 Mighty Max (84720) 8.30 Hoy Arnold (96519) 8.00 Huges (26811) 8.30 Rugats (16861) 10.00 Aaath Real Monsters (56823) 10.30 Eug. (70355) 11.00 Rodo's Modern Life (71671) 91.30 The Adventures of Pete and Pete (72300) 12.00 The Secret World of Alex Mach (94107) 12.30pm The Ren and Stropy Show (21749) 1.00 The Fersits (95300) 1.30 Space Cepcs (1372) 2.00 Clemeta Explains it All (4132) 2.30 Doug (6652) 3.00 Aaath Roal Monsters (7039) 3.30 Spacer Around (8497) 4.00 Bruno the Kid (312) 4.30 Brugats (9316) 5.00 Sector State (7584) 5.30 Sector Seate (768) 6.00 Moesha (7381) 6.30-7.00 Are You Alraid of the Dan? (4861)

PARAMOUNT

7.80pm Farmly Tes (2720, 7.30 Bencom (7395) 8.00 Emertainment UK (8708) 8.30 Hooperman (3403) 9.00 Beleesteid PD (68107) 9.20 Tax (34213) 10.00 Wings (68835) 10.30 London Underground (59364) 11.00 Benry Wetch is Coming (53652) 11.30 Frontine (52107) 12.00 Saturday Night Livo (63091) 1.00mm Hooperman (78256) 1.30 Betersteid PD (17633) 2.00 Enterfamment UK (13492) 2.30 Barry Wetch is Coming (32527) 3.90 Tax (58692) 3.304-0.00 Wings (23879) BRAVO BRAVO

12.00 The Time Turnel (4318836) 1.00pm Remington Steele (7352756) 2.00 Depart-ment S (9682294) 2.00 Space 1999 (4980497) 4.00 FRLM: Jacquelline Sussium's Yalley of the Dolle (5124300) 6.00 Return of the Sant (7457300) 7.00 The Chempons (8368045) 8.00 Alien Nation (2271565) 9.00 The Procuadors (8364229) 10.00-12.00 FRLM: Tattoo (4582768)

6.00am (Groy (6898145) 6.50 Tmiol Pursut (16331590) 7.10 Turnabout (4857942) 7.40 The Young and the Restless (5582768) 8.30 Choice Cuts (9660749) 8.00 Gladnags and Glamour (9103774) 9.10 Gabrielle (4357519) 10.05 Jerry Springer (3940229) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (226709) 11.95 The New Mir and Mrs Show (8887652) 12.85 Fempes (619821) 1.45 Gordon Effice (6969768) 2.30 Agony Experience (6262584) 3.00 Live at Three (69524584) 4.05 Jerry Springer (4607381) 5.06 Lingo (78652855) 8.30 Liutly (adders (626300) 8.00 1 Dream of Jeanne (8726107) 6.35 Ready, Scooly, Cook

as (6409403) 7.05 Interustron UK (7426955) 7.40 Who's Sorry Now? (6563905) 8.05 11, Rolonds (5072749) 9.00 FILM: Throw-30 away Wives (9963565) 11,00-12,00 The Sex. Filas II (9712836) **FAMILY CHANNEL** 

5.00pm Blockhusters (1978) 5.20 Through the Keyholc (5942) 6.00 All Clued Up (2855) 6.30 Catchphrace (3107) 7.00 The Pyramid Game (7224) 7.30 Hart to Hart (28774) 8.30 Only When I Lauph (2749) 9.00 The Father Danling Mysteries (33920) 18.00 Treasure Hurt (36010) 11.00 Ricorg Darrip (18126) 11.30 Duly Free (58681) 12.00 Los Graz: (81427) 1.00am The Father Dowling Mysteries (57362) 2.00 Hart to Hart (34072) 3.00 Los Graz: (73546) 4.00 All Together Now (75256) 4.30-5.00 The Black Station (2052)

The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, like concert footage, miser-views and the latest music video charts. VH-1

ZEE TV

11.00 Zaike Ka Safar 11.30 Fer Bhi Chup Meri Bhi Chup 12.00 Andaz 12.30pm Nukkad 1.00 FiLM: Thangassana Purushan 4.00 Ramadan Special 4.30 Saarp Seed: 5.00 Zee Zone 6.00 Kya Scene He 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 BSCD 7.30 Asha CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from Earn to Spm, Continuous carloons from Barn to Spen, then TNT films as before.
7.00pm WCW Nitro on TNT (20874958) 8.00 Geroriemo (1993) (20781294) 10.00 The Hunger (1993) (20781294) 11.46 Taction the App Man (1981) (31730213) 1.45em Battle Senceth the Earth (1987) (19780417) 3.25-5.00 Hysterie (1985) (9422072)

7.00pm Jaret Poscock de Johnetto 2 (9050590) 8.00 Lo Nozze di Figero (1845039) 11.00 Bertoz (9727768) 12.00-1.00mm Harvest Jazz (1196169)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

Comm Moming Mis (206881) 9.00 Designing Woman (75403) 9.30 Designing Woman (75403) 9.30 Designing Woman (15685) 10.00 Another World (21132) 11.00 Opas of Our Lives (55786) 12.00 Opash Wirkey (58638) 1.00ps Gamildo (14838) 2.00 Selly Jessy Rephed (11838) 3.00 Selly Jessy Rephed (11838) 3.00 Selly 10.00 Opash Wintey (33497) 5.00 Ster Treic The Next Generation (1403) 8.00 Rest IV (1669) 6.30 Member 10.00 Mem (1403) 6.00 Regi TV (1563) 6.30 Member, with Children (8045) 7.00 The 5 Propiers. (2132) 7.30 MASH (4225) 8.00 TJAS (53745) 8.00 Walker, Texas Ranger (56213) 10.00 High Incicent (50300) 11.00 Star Treit. This Next Generation (32861) 12.00 LAPO (15091) 12.30mm The Locy Show (58324) 1.00 Hz Max Long Pay (25140)

SKY MOVIES

9.00am Sun Volley Seronado (1947) (72045) 7.30 A Christmas Carol (1979) (75122) 8.30 Duncan's World (61045) 10.00 Will Any Gantlemant' U (1953) (2009) 12.00 My Femily Treesure (1950) (16381) 2.00am Den't Talk to Strangers (1954) 156294) 4.00 Duncan's World

4.00pm internalismal Valvet (1978) (46102300) 4.10 Crazy Manne (1975) 2334627) 8.00 Bibti and Pete-(1985) 6861652 70.00 Go Tell, the Spantum (1978) (7148167) 12.05em All the Hight Marine (1983) (758053) 1.40 The Lant Debail (1973) (2291633) 3.25-5.20 Meet Me In St Louin (1944) (8102546)

8.00mm The Rugby Cute (2992233) 9.00 NML Power Week (3545377) 10.00 World Whesting Federation (3332534) 11.00 Big League Classics (4940478; 12.30-1.00 Second Immings (1617817) . 12.00 Buil Suring Tour (87246107) 1.00 pm Footbal Leigue, Revent (18429861) 2.30 Fulbol Mundial (81345871) 3.00 Tight Lines (43114273) 4.00 U.S. Golf: Mercedes Champlorathp (75744587) 6.00 Bud Suring Tour (87348519) 7.00 Live Friday Nght Footbal (81616562) 10,00-12.00 Marcedus Champlorathp (43113594)



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UK LIVING

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds 7.00am Jaagran 7.30 Lifestyle East 8.30 Campus 9.00 Sin Kristina 9.30 Yaadon Ke Reng 10.00 Hauretan 10.30 Kepitoshan 11.00 Zaiko Ka Salar 11.30 Ten Bhi Chup

PERFORMANCE

of his progress



FRIDAY JANUARY 10 1997

Barcelona manager is people's choice

## Robson rises from fog on the Tyne

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

KEVIN KEEGAN'S name plate disappeared from the Newcastle United car park overnight, but between dawn and dusk yesterday the kites were being flown across the Toon, through the city of London, and to the Spanish peninsula in pursuit of who might succeed the Messiah as the new manager. Finally, late last night, the name of Bobby Robson appeared to be everyone's tip to "come home" to resettle in one last great chall-

enge, managing the club he had supported as a boy.

Reports that Newcastle officials were meeting Robson, 64, in Barcelona last night helped reduce the odds about him succeeding Keegan from 12-1 to 2-1. However, vesterday morning Robson had insisted that he would see out the two-year contract binding him to the Catalan club until May

"I was shocked like everybody else when I heard Kevin gone." Robson said from his office at the Nou Camp. Barcelona's headquarters.

But I've nothing to say about my name being linked. I work for Barcelona, the biggest and arguably the best club in the world. I've just started a twoyear contract and the club is having its best start to any season in 33 years . . . did you get that, 33 years!"

The passion in the Geordie's voice, the defiance against pressure that he says is politically motivated from other corners of Spain, was unmis-takable. Robson, apparently people's choice Tyneside, had not heard that. according to Newcastle sources, a plane was on its way, bringing a three-man Newcastle United delegation to meet him in Barcelona.

Similarly, last night, John Toshack, the Welshman whose Deportivo La Coruña club Barcelona had beaten in a tumultuous match last Sunday, was at pains to deny speculation on Spanish state television that he was dining at the Marbella villa where Sir



Gresley's appeal

John Hall, the Newcastle chairman, is holidaying. Toshack is leaving Deportivo at the end of the season. possibly sooner.

Names tumbled from Newcastle's tree of rumour like leaves in the fall. Brian Little. a much younger Geordie, admitted to being flattered by his inclusion, confessed his remendous affection for Newcastle United, and said a few moments ahead of his own chairman, Doug Ellis. that he was staying at Aston Villa — the club that Newcastle visit tomorrow.

From Amsterdam, an agent speaking on behalf of Johan Cruyff, whom Robson replaced at Barcelona, reiterated that Cruyff is as unavailable to Newcastle as he has been to other big European clubs this season. Cruyff, who is suing



Robson: committed to Barcelona until 1998

after his dismissal, happens to be the new president of a new venture called World Soccer Sixes that involves Liverpool, Rangers, Ajax and AC Milan. and will later this month present a commercialised concept of six-a-side football. One of the directors of the new company, based on an idea by the former Liverpool player, Craig Johnston. is Kenny

Dalglish, too, is on Newcastle's mind and, almost exclusively, he has not said he is unavailable. He has said nothing on the subject, which is nothing new for Dalglish. However, in the village of speculation that is Tyneside. Malcolm Macdonald, a former Newcastle centre forward, says he has it on good authority that Dalglish visited Sir John, a week ago. Meanwhile, Sir John con-tacted the Evening Chronicle

in Newcastle to insist that he was staying at the club . . . or rather, more vaguely, that he was committed to a future that, this season, had every-thing to play for — the FA Carling Premiership, the FA Cup, the Uefa Cup. While the players trained, each of them committed to silence, while the speculators surrounding the proposed stockmarket flotation of Newcastle imagined that they hold the balance of power in deciding the new man, uncertainty festered.

It is said that the bankers would not accept Dalglish, would not be any more certain that he, despite winning the championship as manager of erpool and Blackburn Rovers, would be any less likely to walk away than Keegan has been.

Within Newcastle, the not unreasonable sway is towards one of their own. Robson, furious at interpretations within Spain that his coaching philosophy is alien to the game there, determined to prove himself as successful there as he did in winning championships for PSV Eind-hoven and PC Porto. He is adamant that his future lies with Barcelona's next game, against Hercules at the Nou Camp on Monday.

An honest man, telling it like it is. Yet the kite keeps flying, the people of Tyneside, said to be the strength of a twelfth man to the team, cling to the symmetry of Robson coming home. His father, like Kevin Keegan's and like Sir John's, came from Durham mining stock. So, the Geordies

are di**eg**ing in. The past five years has been an inflated period, even if the passions there can seem like a coal fire compared to the inferno, the mix of separatist political fervour and football. that mays Rubsum a millionaire's salary in Barcelona. It might just be the time to defuse things a little on the Tyne, to accept that an outsider not blinded by passion. could come and take the team that Keegan built to a championship no one has celebrated at Newcastle for 70 years. The stealth, perhaps, of Dalglish"

summit he reached in Suzuka.

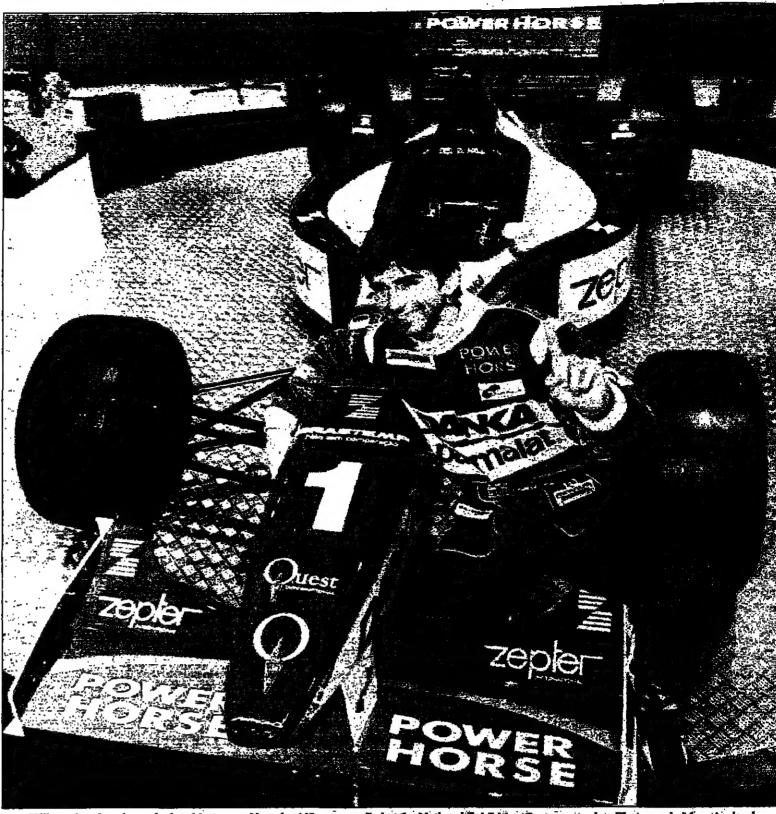
last October. There was even talk from Tom Walkinshaw, the Arrows team owner, of Hill winning races in the second half of next season, despite the fact that Arrows won just one point last year. "I am not dreaming." Walkinshaw said, "I am trying to be realistic and analytical."

But there was indeed something missing, a subtle ally that has been at Hill's elbow at the start of every season, at every January launch, from the time he joined Williams in 1993 to the time he started his last season last year.

wholehearted commitment. Nor was it the belief that Arrows, with new sponsors, new and competitive Bridgestone tyres and Hill behind the wheel, are already forging their way into a bright future. But Formula One is not a quick-fix sport. It takes time and money to drag a team from the bottom towards the

top and, for the first time since his debut year with Williams. Hill is approaching the start of a season without the prospect that its end will bring him a world championship.

Hill said, "that there is no way I am going to enjoy the level of success I had last season. Even



Hill was in relaxed mood when his Arrows Yamaha Al8 was unveiled at the National Exhibition Centre yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

## outlines his target with Arrows

This year will be a completel

"But I am not in grand prix

race this year and I am

certainly not expecting it to

happen. It is going to be a step

different experience.

By OLIVER HOLT

thing missing. Bob." he said.

revealed and, as the festivities

surrounding the launch of the

new Arrows Yamaha at the

Autosport International Show

in Birmingham wore on, it mattered less and less.

Hill was happy and relaxed,

still bathing in his world

champion's aura, relishing the

hard work ahead after a

winter festouned with richly

deserved honours and

awards. Dressed in the unfa-

miliar livery of his new team. he said the Arrows Yamaha

Al8 was "a sexy little number".

at first, that much is not open

to question. After winning 21

races out of 67 starts with

Williams, there was only one

way to go when he left. Hill's body language, his demean-

our, his comments and the

though, suggest it may not be

too long before he starts

dimbing back towards the

It will be a step back for him

Exactly what was never

A BRASS band led Damon Hill onto the stage yesterday. Fireworks fizzed and popped as the crowd applauded and a shower of sparks cascaded down over him and the new car that will be the vehicle for the next stage of his career. The announcer asked him about his hopes for the season. but Hill seemed faintly preoccupied. "I think there's some-

It was not optimism. It was certainly not determination or

"It is very important to communicate to everyone,"

backwards in order to in a Williams, it was hard to forwards and get back to the: win all those races and I started them all from the front.

Walkinshaw, who revealed that Hill's size 12 feet had forced a hasty and costly racing to fool around. I am too redesign of the car which set aware of the risks. I want to the building of it back a win. I have my pride. But I think it would be quite remonth, said the Englishman would probably test it for the markable if we were to win a first time at Silverstone next Wednesday. "At first, I will be happy if Damon can qualify in the first

position by the second half of the season where he is in the points consistently. And if hegets to the podium there is no reason why he should not come away with a win. particularly as there may be three or four circuits where the Bridgestone tyres have an advantage over the Good years. Whatever happens, the honeymoon phase is over."

four rows," Walkinshaw said

"I hope we can get him in a

# TWO TIMES OSSWORD

No 987

2 Tolerate what can't be changed (4.3.4.2)

5 Narrow neck of land (7)

7 River of Sudan, Egypt (4)

15 Site of 1996 Olympics (7)

17 Soul: mood: alcohol (6)

20 Teheran its capital (4)

21 Church recess (4)

6 Llaregyb play (Dylun

8 Agency secretary (4)

13 Deeply respectful (8)

Bowman (b)

### DOWN 1 Pub (8)

: ACROSS 1 Drug-affected: (game) slightly off (4)

- 3 Tending to silence (S) 9 Aromatic flavouring (5) 10 Keep: dialect (anag) (7)
- 11 Instance: pattern (7) 12 Gloomy darkness (4) 14 Angular unit, app. 57º (6 16 Have ambition (6)
- 18 Dispose of (4)
- 19 Little thorn (7) 22 Colleague, ally (7) 23 Unaccompanied (5)
- 24 Drama interval: its music

25 Check and correct (text) (4) The solution to 986 will be published Wednesday, January 15

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## Ireland snap up Ashton

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE long arm of coincidence tapped on Brian Asitton's shoulder vesterday when the Irish Rughy Football Union (IRFU), moving with a speed that its own back division has failed to show in three internationals this season, appointed the former Bath coach as "advisor" to the management for the five nations championship this

season. Only on Monday, Ashton's six-month career as head coach to the English champions was concluded and he admitted he had no offers in the pipeline on Tuesday night the IRFU dispensed with the services of Murray Kidd, its coach, and invited Ashton for an interview on Wednesday: yesterday Ashton, 50, said he was "staggered" at the turn of events.

advisor to Pat Whelan, the team manager, and will work with Mike Brewer, the former New Zealand back-row forward, who has been assisting Kidd. Understandably, he will have no say in the selection of the XV to play France in Dublin on January 18. That will be named on Saturday night and already Mark McCall, the Dungannon centre, is unavailable

because of a broken thumb. "I have no great knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the players but it's a terrific challenge." Ashton, who was assistant coach to England in 1984-85, said. Coincidentally. Ashton's ap-pointment matches that made by the French federation this week of Pierre Villepreux. bringing into opposition two men who have worked together in the past.

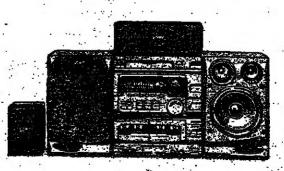
The role with Ireland will also bring Ashton into conflict with Bath players he has coached when England play in Dublin on February 15; how ironic that on the day he was interviewed in Ireland. Jack Rowell, his former colleague at Bath, was suggesting that Ashton might have a role to play in the England coaching structure.

"Brian's involvement will only enhance our coaching set-up." Whelan said. "He's one of the top coaches in the northern hemisphere, his track record proves that. He will come in at a difficult time but he knows a lot of our players and he will find out about the rest very quickly." The full-time coaching post remains vacant until after the championship.

Jenkins withdraws, page 44

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